

THE LONDON LITERARY GAZETTE;

Journal of Belles Lettres, Arts, Sciences, &c.

AND

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No. 670.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 1829.

PRICE 8d.

REVIEW OF NEW BOOKS.

Historical Account of Discoveries in North America; including the United States, Canada, the Shores of the Polar Sea, and the Voyages in Search of a North-West Voyage: with Observations on Emigration. By Hugh Murray, Esq., F.R.S.E., author of "Historical Account of Discoveries and Travels in Africa, Asia," &c. 2 vols. 8vo.

CONSTRUCTED on a similar plan, and embracing an equally varied range of topics, this compendium is likely to sustain and augment the reputation which Mr. Murray has acquired by his two former works on Africa and Asia. The subject possesses an interest of a very high nature, and peculiarly its own;—an interest extending retrospectively to that age of enterprise in which the western hemisphere was discovered, and prospectively to those times, probably not far distant, when the American people shall have stretched from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and prodigiously changed the relations that have so long subsisted between Europe and Asia. For an undertaking like the present a great abundance of materials existed—but they lay scattered in a variety of separate works, many of them costly, some already scarce; and in compressing them into a moderate compass, under a convenient arrangement, Mr. Murray has conferred a substantial favour not only on the literary world, but on the public generally. Either by good fortune, or by felicity of tact, he has moulded his work into that popular form which combines, in due proportions, amusement with instruction: he has interspersed with his historical details various traits of individual adventure, and sketches of national character and manners: so that his book, notwithstanding many marks of negligence in the style, which he must by all means remove in another edition, combines the utility of a scientific treatise with the entertainment afforded by a collection of voyages and travels.

The plan of the work is well adapted for effecting this union of the useful with the amusing. After a preliminary discussion on the supposed early discoveries of America, and on the origin of the inhabitants of that continent, Mr. Murray details the discovery and colonisation of North America, the Spanish and French expeditions to Florida, the discovery and settlement of Virginia, of New England, and of the secondary colonies of Great Britain, together with the settlement of the French in Canada and Louisiana. Then follows a portraiture of the American Indians, which perhaps may startle those who have formed their notions of these aborigines chiefly from the reveries of the French philosophers, or from the ideal picture of an Indian chief in Mr. Campbell's interesting poem of *Gertrude*. In his account of America, before and after the revolution, Mr. Murray evinces equal prudence and good feeling, and avoids the discussion of questions which, without any salutary result, would revive animosities happily extinct. His

succinct history of the settlement of the western territories, and of the discoveries beyond the Mississippi, will be read with interest even by those who still freshly remember the narratives and journals of which it forms an able recapitulation. An abstract of the early voyages for the discovery of a north-west passage, is followed by a relation of the more recent voyages of Captains Ross and Parry, and of the arctic land expeditions. The third book contains a synopsis of works relating to the United States of America—exhibits their political system—depicts their moral and social condition—and presents a general view of their industry and commerce. The concluding chapters are occupied with the present state of Canada and the other countries of British America, and with some statements relative to the important subject of emigration, which cannot fail to be read with very great attention. A list of authorities subjoined, forms a very proper and useful accompaniment to the work.

The historical and descriptive parts, as we have already observed, mutually relieve each other. We are tempted to select, from one of the introductory chapters, part of Mr. Murray's conclusion on that interesting question,—“When and by whom the western hemisphere was peopled?”

“The peopling of America is no longer an object of the slightest mystery or difficulty. The north-west limit of this continent approaches so close to Asia, that the two are almost within view of each other, and small boats can pass between them. Even farther south, at Kamtschatka, where the distance may be six or seven hundred miles, the Fox and Aleutian Islands form so continuous a chain, that the passage might be effected with the greatest facility. The Tschutchi, who inhabit the north-eastern extremity of Asia, are in the regular habit of passing from one continent to the other. These tribes, then, from the earliest ages had discovered that mysterious world which was hidden from the wisest nations of antiquity, and appeared so wonderful to modern Europeans. It was not a discovery in their eyes. They knew not that this was Asia and that was America; they knew not that they were on one of the great boundaries of earth. They knew only that one frozen and dreary shore was opposite to another equally frozen and dreary. However, it is manifest, that by this route any amount of people might have passed over into America. The form of the Americans approaching to that of the nations in the north-east of Asia, the comparatively well-peopled state of its north-western districts, and the constant tradition of the Mexicans, that the Aztecs and the Toultecs, who early occupied their territory, came from the north-west—all agree with the indications afforded by the natural structure of the continent. But it may be said, that although people by this channel undoubtedly passed over from the old world to America, this does not exclude other colonies from finding their way across the Atlantic or the Pacific. Supposing

it too much to have crossed the entire breadth at once, they may have taken their departure from some of the numerous islands with which both oceans, and especially the Pacific, are interspersed: all peopled at their first discovery. If these islands were peopled from the distant continents of Europe and Asia, why not America from them? We are to observe, however, that the South Sea groups, however distant some of them may be from any main-land, range in a continuous line with each other; so that the extremity of one group is seldom very far distant from the extremity of another. It was therefore no very mighty achievement for men possessing, on a small scale, the maritime enterprise natural to an insular territory, to effect a passage successively to each. But America is every where, unless on the north, begirt with an unbroken breadth of at least a thousand miles of ocean, without a single insular point which could form a step in the progress of the navigator. Combining this circumstance with the observations already made on these immense voyages, whether voluntary or compulsory, the probability appears very great that no such passage ever took place. If any detached individuals ever were wafted across the ocean, I am persuaded that they would not possess or retain any of the civilisation of the old world,—and that they did not contribute in any shape to that measure or form of improvement which was attained in Mexico or Peru. It is vain to urge that the Mexicans expressed their ideas, and even their history, by paintings, which bore some resemblance to the paintings and hieroglyphics of Egypt. Man, as soon as he emerges from total barbarism, must feel the desire of expressing his ideas by some mode more durable than words; and this mode, in the first instance, must inevitably be painting. He must begin with a picture of the object which he wishes to record. This picture, generalised and refined, passes gradually into the symbol, the hieroglyphic, the expressive mark, and, finally, into the alphabetic character. In these latter stages, although they depend upon the general principles of human nature, there is much in point of form that is arbitrary, and a coincidence in regard to which might indicate very clearly an ancient connexion. But mere paintings, as they must bear a certain resemblance, so their common use seems to indicate nothing more than the action of the most elementary principles in the human mind. The forms of architecture also, as they are dictated by convenience or the sense of duty, may often exhibit some casual coincidences. I am convinced that all the civilisation which existed in America arose, as it flourished, in the delightful table-lands of Mexico, Quito, Cusco, and Cundinamarca. It is in these happy regions, where men multiply, and the means of subsistence are abundant, that the refined arts first become an object of cultivation. This conclusion is not at all shaken by the fact quoted by Humboldt, that the Toultec conquerors, who came from the now barbarous re-

gions in the north-west, were the framers of the most remarkable of the Mexican monuments. Generally, conquerors adopt the arts and improvements of the vanquished nation; and their active and ambitious character impels them to call these into action on a greater scale than the usually supine dynasty which they have overthrown. The grandest monuments of Hindostan and China were erected by monarchs of Tartar origin; but the art which constructed them was Hindoo or Chinese."

Our space will not admit the entire outline which Mr. Murray has given of the political system of the American republic; but we must insert one of its most important passages.

"The general government consists of three members, the Representative Body, the Senate, and the President. The House of Representatives forms the basis of the legislature, and is an assembly purely democratic. The members are elected by the whole body of the people, with the exclusion of Indians and Negroes. The members sit for two years, when a fresh election takes place. The proportion is nearly as one out of 40,000, which produces at present 118 members. The state-legislatures have no share in the elections, though each sends a member entitled to sit and speak, but not to vote. The elections, as may be supposed, among a people eagerly interested in political concerns, and not endowed with the meekest and most softened temper, are carried on with considerable asperity. Even Mrs. Wright, though disposed to view America in a favourable light, was shocked at the virulence displayed on these occasions. Every species of vituperation is lavished on the hostile candidate; pasquinades are put up, the streets resound with flaming orations, the newspapers are filled with embittered paragraphs, the subject engrosses every company. Mr. Cooper observes, that instances of proceeding to personal combat were not observed by him, and in his opinion are not numerous; but they are not without precedent. When, however, the choice is made, the storm is hushed, and affairs go on in their usual train till another similar period arrives. It is meantime remarked, that the multitude do not usually select representatives similar to themselves, but grave and respectable men of talent and experience. The aspect of this august body, which sways the destinies of so great a portion of the earth, has not inspired much reverence into European spectators. The hall in which they meet, though it possesses, in Mr. Cooper's eyes, a simple grandeur, is viewed by most others as humble and even shabby. The members lounge about, look out at the window, talk to each other, write and fold letters, and bestow, unless in special cases, scarcely any attention on the orators by whom the floor is occupied. It is indeed on all hands admitted, that their harangues are spun out to a length which is perfectly unreasonable and intolerable. It is not at all rare for a speaker to keep possession of the floor for three successive days; and the number who can hold on for two or three hours is lamentably great. These lengthy effusions, as may be expected, by no means adhere closely to the subject, but run out into all sorts of extraneous and irrelevant topics. The necessary consequence of these wordy impediments is a great slowness in the progress of public business; and yet this slowness is deemed by Mr. Cooper to be not, perhaps, an unsafe fault in a government, the greatest evils of which have hitherto proceeded from rashness and precipitation. The senate is constituted in a manner entirely different, and without any

direct agency from the body of the people. The legislatures of the different states elect each two members; and thus Delaware, which has only a population of 70,000, elects as many as New York, with eighteen times that amount. Now that the states are twenty-four, the senate of course is composed of forty-eight members. The senators must have attained the age of thirty, and they sit for six years; a third, however, being changed every two years. They form thus, not indeed a body really aristocratic, but one which has somewhat of aristocratic action, whose gravity and stability tend to check those too rapid and violent movements to which a pure democracy is liable. The executive part of the administration remained still to be formed, and for this purpose an entirely new machinery is brought into play. There is created within each state, by arrangements of its own, sometimes by the legislature, sometimes by the whole people, and sometimes by only a part, a body of electors who name the candidate on whom they wish that the choice should fall. This vote is transmitted in a sealed packet to Congress, by whom all the votes are opened in one eventful day, and the office given to him who commands a majority of states. He must possess indeed more than half the entire number, or eleven out of the twenty, otherwise the choice devolves upon Congress. The functions of this officer are more ample than might be expected from the basis upon which the constitution rests. He has the entire command both of the military and naval force, though it is not understood or expected that he should head either in person. He appoints to all civil and military offices, subject to the approbation, that is, to the veto, of two-thirds of the senate, which is not, however, very often interposed. Upon the laws which have passed the two legislative assemblies he does not possess an absolute negative; but he can suspend and arrest the operation of any particular act till it is presented to him again with a majority of two-thirds in its favour; his opposition must then cease. The president is elected for four years, at the end of which period he may be re-elected, and so on indefinitely; so that there might be room for an eminently popular character to slide insensibly into the possession of this high station, and the constitution to become monarchical. It is a subject of boast, that the emoluments of the president are singularly moderate. To the supreme functionary of a nation of twelve millions, an allowance of 25,000 dollars (about £5,400), with a furnished house, certainly deserves that appellation. Mr. Cooper indeed contends, that he may live well, and save a good proportion of it; but we rather incline to concur with Mr. Warden, that it cannot defray the expense of the open table which he is expected to keep. He is understood to give dinners twice a-week to members of Congress, public functionaries, and any eminent strangers who may happen to be at Washington. Once a fortnight, also, the 'White House,' as it is called, is thrown open to citizens, male and female, of every description, with only the tacit understanding of their being tolerably well-dressed. Mr. Cooper mentions among those present on such an occasion, an innkeeper, a petty shopkeeper, and the daughter of a mechanic of Baltimore. It is not even very uncommon for a carman to leave his waggon at the door, and come in to shake hands with the president, when he is well received—though this action is considered not strictly according to *bienséance*."

The view of the moral and social condition

of the United States, taken, as it appears to have been, with candour and impartiality, from testimonies carefully compared, certainly forms no inviting picture. A republic without aristocracy, without hierarchy, without those gradations of rank, which, while they present one of the strongest incentives to honourable ambition, tend to maintain that order which is essential to the welfare of large communities—presents a level uniformity of aspect not congenial to the habits and feelings of a European. It exhibits few of those varieties of condition and character which constitute the drama of human existence; it is not the state of society in which a Shakespeare could have drawn "each change of many-coloured life." Liberty and equality are solid compensating advantages, undoubtedly; but they cannot be enjoyed without refinement of manners,—and this bond of civilised society seems not as yet to have much force with the Americans. They are too proud and jealous of their freedom to enjoy it in concert; and the license of democracy has created among them almost as many restraints and as many encroachments as could have been imposed or enjoined by the authority of despotism. Thus, in a land where slaves are bought and sold, the punctilios of citizenship permit no man to call his servant a servant; freedom of speech is carried beyond the bounds of good manners; and even property is *made free with*, to a greater extent than is consistent with ordinary notions of right and wrong. In their commercial transactions the Americans have the reputation of being shrewd, keen, and ready to take advantage,—qualities that do not very well comport with liberal and highly honourable dealing. Doubtless, among the affluent classes a more exalted and gentlemanlike spirit prevails; but it is said to be partly maintained by that direct canon in the code of chivalry—duelling—which implies a law of honour absolute and imperative even over the free spirit of democracy. As a nation, the Americans may become mighty; but it is very much to be doubted that they will ever become truly great.

In taking leave of Mr. Murray, we must express our hope of soon meeting him again, with the results of his researches relative to South America; and we anticipate much pleasure in there contemplating the past, present, and prospective state of those rich and golden regions over which Pizarro and Cortez wielded

"The heroic Spaniard's unrelenting sword."

The Comic Annual. By T. Hood, Esq. 12mo. pp. 174. London. Hurst, Chance, and Co. *THE Comic Annual* is at least a novelty, and we are really glad of any thing new in this line; for though it would be too bad in the public to undervalue any of these handsome books (seeing, as how, the public being dispersed, takes only one or two in its separate capacity), yet we, having the fulness of them all, and generally pretty well altogether, have become fastidious about their sameness and want of variety. What Mr. Hood has done to diversify this feeling we will not say, because his *Annual* will not (we believe) be published for some days, and the whole of our present purpose is to amuse our readers with a few stray specimens from it of what has fallen in our way. But first, we must lament to state, that the humour of a multitude of wood-cuts defies our critical powers to paint in language. "A clear stage and no favour" is bespoken in the beginning by a *stage-coach* overturned, and certainly *clear* enough and without *favour*, as all the passengers are disappearing in a deep horse-pond, into which they have been thrown,

—and this is a taste of the rest! Then comes the dedication to an individual who, if the old style were in fashion, would well deserve one of the most panegyrical epistles, but who will now laugh at their whimsical successor, which we copy:—

“To Sir Francis Freeling, Bart., the great Patron of Letters, foreign, general, and two-penny; distinguished alike by his fostering care of the Bell Letters, and his antiquarian regard for the Dead Letters;—whose increasing efforts to forward the spread of intelligence, as a corresponding member of all societies, (and no man fills his Post better) have singly, doubly, and trebly, endeared him to every class,—this first volume of the Comic Annual, is, with frank permission, gratefully inscribed, by Thomas Hood.”

The preface, in unison, holds these doctrines:—

“In the Christmas holidays—or rather holly days, according to one of the emblems of the season—we naturally look for mirth. Christmas is strictly a Comic Annual, and its specific gaiety is even implied in the specific gravity of its oxen. There is an English proverb of ‘Laugh and grow fat,’—a saying which our graziers interpret—on the authority of some Prize Oxonian—by growing the fattest of fat for the merriest of months. The proverb, however, has another sense, implying a connexion between cackinnation and corpulence in the human body—and truly, having seen gentlemen of twenty stone in their seats, I am ready to allow that a fat man is always a cheerful. Taking the adage in the latter sense, it is my humble hope and aim to contribute towards the laughter and lustiness of my fellow-creatures, by the production of The Comic Annual,—a work not equivocating between mirth and melancholy, but exclusively devoted to the humorous—in plain French, not an ‘Ambigu,’ but an ‘Opéra Comique.’ Christmas, indeed, seems a tide more adapted for rowing in the gig or the jolly, than tugging in the barge or the galley, and accordingly I have built my craft. The kind friends who may patronise the present launch are assured that it will be acknowledged by renewed exertion, and that I seriously intend to come before them next year, with

‘A braver bark, and an increasing sail.’

“The materials (he continues) which were in preparation for a third series of Whims and Oddities, have been thrown into the present volume—that work may, therefore, be still considered as going on, though its particular name is not exhibited; but it is a partner in the comic firm. Each future series will, in the same manner, be associated with the whims and oddities of other authors; and it will be my endeavour to feed every succeeding volume with the choicest morsels that can be procured. In short, the work will be pamper’d—like Captain Head. In the meantime, many little defects, incidental to a first attempt, will be observed and pointed out by the judicious critics, to whom, consciously and respectfully, I bow, like Norval, ‘with bended bow and quiver full of errors;’ merely hoping, timidly, that as second thoughts are allowed to be best, they will deal mildly with my first ones. In my illustrations, as usual, preferring wood to copper or steel, I have taken to *box* as the medium for making hits.”

Such are the introductory “helps,” as the Americans call them, to this amusing tome; and in order to fulfil our promise, we shall now, without choice, extract the first of the company—“Number One.”

“It’s very hard! and so it is,

To live in such a row,
And witness this, that every mis
But me has got a better
For Love goes calling up and down,
But here he seems to shun:
I’m sure he has been asked enough
To call at Number One!

I’m sick of all the double knocks
That come to Number Four!
At Number Three I often see
A lover at the door;
And one in blue, at Number Two,
Calls daily like a dun,—
It’s very hard they come so near
And not at Number One!

Miss Bell, I hear, has got a dear
Exactly to her mind,
By sitting at the window pane
Without a bit of blind;
But I go in the balcony,
Which she has never done,
Yet arts that thrive at Number Five
Don’t take at Number One!

‘Tis hard with plenty in the street,
And plenty passing by,—
There’s nice young men at Number Ten,
But only rather shy;
And Mrs. Smith across the way
Has got a grown-up son,
But la! he hardly seems to know
There is a Number One!

There’s Mr. Wick at Number Nine,
But he’s intent on pelf,
And though he’s pious, will not love
His neighbour as himself.
At Number Seven there was a sale—
The goods had quite a run!
And here I’ve got my single lot
On hand at Number One!

My mother often sits at work
And talks of props and stays,
And what a comfort I shall be
In her declining days!
The very maids about the house
Have set me down a son,
The sweethearts all belong to them
That call at Number One!

Once only, when the flue took fire,
One Friday afternoon,
Young Mr. Long came kindly in,
And told me not to swoon.
Why can’t he come again without
The Phoenix and the Sun?
We cannot always have a flue
On fire at Number One!

I am not old! I am not plain;
Nor awkward in my gait—
I am not crooked like the bride
That went from Number Eight:
I’m sure white satin made her look
As brown as any hair;
But even beauty has no chance
I think at Number One!

At Number Six they say Miss Rose
Has slain a score of hearts,
And Cupid, for her sake, has been
Quite prodigal of darts.
The imp they shew with bended bow—
I wish he had a gun!
But if he had, he’d never deign
To shoot with Number One!

It’s very hard! and so it is,
To live in such a row!
And here’s a ballad-singer come
To aggravate my woe:
O take away your foolish song
And tones enough to stun—
There is ‘no luck about the house,’
I know at Number One!”

We also take the first prose tale, as another fair example of this Annual.

Drawn for a Soldier.

“I was once—for a few hours only—in the militia. I suspect I was in part answerable for my own mishap. There is a story in Joe Miller of a man, who, being *pressed* to serve his majesty on another element, pleaded his polite breeding, to the gang, as a good ground of exemption; but was told, that the crew being a set of sad unmannerly dogs, a Chesterfield was the very character they wanted. The militiamen acted, I presume, on the same principle. Their customary schedule was forwarded to me, at Brighton, to fill up; and in a moment of incautious hilarity—induced, perhaps, by the absence of all business or employment, except pleasure—I wrote myself down in the descriptive column as ‘*Quite a gentleman.*’ The

consequence followed immediately. A precept, addressed by the High Constable of Westminster to the Low ditto of the parish of St. M***, and indorsed with my name, informed me that it had turned up in that involuntary lottery, the ballot. At sight of the orderly, who thought proper to deliver the document into no other hands than mine, my mother-in-law cried, and my wife fainted on the spot. They had no notion of any distinctions in military service—a soldier was a soldier—and they imagined that, on the very morrow, I might be ordered abroad to a fresh Waterloo. They were unfortunately ignorant of that benevolent provision, which absolved the militia from going out of the kingdom—‘except in case of an invasion.’ In vain I represented that we were ‘locals;’ they had heard of local diseases, and thought there might be wounds of the same description. In vain I explained that we were not troops of the line;—they could see nothing to choose between being shot in a line, or in any other figure. I told them, next, that I was not obliged to ‘serve myself;’—but they answered, ‘twas so much the harder I should be obliged to serve any one else.’ My being sent abroad, they said, would be the death of them; for they had witnessed, at Ramsgate, the embarkation of the Walcheren expedition, and too well remembered ‘the misery of the soldiers’ wives at seeing their husbands in *transports*!’ I told them that, at the very worst, if I should be sent abroad, there was no reason why I should not return again;—but they both declared, they never did, and never would, believe in those ‘Returns of the killed and wounded.’ The discussion was in this stage when it was interrupted by another loud single knock at the door, a report equal in its effects on us to that of the memorable cannon-shot at Brussels; and before we could recover ourselves, a strapping sergeant entered the parlour with a huge bow, or rather rain-bow, of party-coloured ribands in his cap. He came, he said, to offer a substitute for me; but I was prevented from reply by the indignant females asking him in the same breath, ‘Who and what did he think *could* be a substitute for a son and a husband?’ The poor sergeant looked foolish enough at this turn; but he was still more abashed when the two anxious ladies began to cross-examine him on the length of his services abroad, and the number of his wounds, the campaigns of the militia-man having been confined doubtless to Hounslow, and his bodily marks militant to the three stripes on his sleeve. Parrying these awkward questions, he endeavoured to prevail upon me to see the proposed proxy, a fine young fellow, he assured me, of unusual stature; but I told him it was quite an indifferent point with me whether he was 6-feet-2 or 2-feet-6,—in short, whether he was as tall as the flag, or ‘under the standard.’ The truth is, I reflected that it was a time of profound peace; that a civil war, or an invasion, was very unlikely; and as for an occasional drill, that I could make shift, like Lavater, to right-about-face. Accordingly I declined seeing the substitute, and dismissed the sergeant with a note to the War-Secretary to this purport:—‘That I considered myself *drawn*; and expected therefore to be well *quarter’d*. That, under the circumstances of the country, it would probably be unnecessary for militiamen ‘to be mustarded;’ but that if his Majesty did ‘*call me out*,’ I hoped I should ‘*give him satisfaction*.’ The females were far from being pleased with this billet. They talked a great deal of moral suicide, wilful murder, and seeking the bubble reputation in the cannon’s mouth; but I shall

ever think that I took the proper course, for, after the lapse of a few hours, two more of the General's red-coats, or General postmen, brought me a large packet sealed with the War-office Seal, and superscribed 'Henry Hardinge;' by which I was officially absolved from serving on horse, or on foot, or on both together, then and thereafter. And why, I know not—unless his Majesty doubted the handsomeness of discharging me in particular, without letting off the rest;—but so it was, that in a short time afterwards there issued a proclamation, by which the services of all militiamen were for the present dispensed with,—and we were left to pursue our several avocations,—of course, all the lighter in our spirits for being disembodied."

Shall we add, as affording a perfect idea of the singular way in which the author views all sorts of subjects?—

"A Letter from a Market Gardener to the Secretary of the Horticultural Society."

"Sir,—The Satiety having Bean pleased to Complement Me before I beg Leaf to lie before Them agin as follow in particulers with I hop They will luck upon with a Sowth Aspic. Sir—last year I paid my Atentions to a Tater & the Satiety was pleased to be gratified at the Innlargement of my Kidnis. This ear I have turnd my Eyes to Gozberries.—I am happy to Say I have almost suksidid in Making them too Big for Bottlin. I beg to Present sum of itch kind.—Pleas observe a Green Goose is larger in Siz then a Red Goosebery. Sir as to Cherris my atention has Bean cheafly occupid by the Black Arts. Sum of them are as big as Crickit Balls as will be seen I send a Sample tyed on a Wauking-stick. I send likewise a Potle of stray berries with I hop will reach. They air so large as to object to lay more nor too in a Bed. Also a Potle of Hobbies and one of my new Pins, of a remarkably sharp flavour. I hop they will cum to Hand in time to be at your Feet. Respective Black red & White Currency I have growd equely Large, so as one Bunch is not to be Put into a Galley Pot without jamming. My Pitches has not ben Strong, & their is no Show on My Walls of the Plumb line. Damsins will Be moor Plentifile & their is no Want of common Bullies about Lunnon. Please inform if propper to classify the Slow with the creepers. Concerning Graps I have bin recommended by mixing Wines with Warter Mellons, the later is improved in its juce—but have douts of the fack. Of the Patgonian Pickleing Coucumber, I hav maid Trial of, and have hops of Growing one up to Markit by sitting one End agin my front dore. On account of its Progressiveness I propos calling it Pickleus Perriginatus if Aproved of. Sir, about Improving the common Stocks.—Of Haws I have some hops but am disponding about my Hys. I have quite faled in cultu-vating them into Cramberries. I have also attempted to Mull Blackberis, but am satisfied them & the Mulberis is of different Genius. Pleas observe of Aples I have found a Graft of the common Crab from its Straglin side. ways of use to Hispalliers. I should lick to be inforund weather Scotch Granite is a variety of the Pom Granite & weather as sum say so pore a frute, and Nothing but Stone. Sir,—My Engine Corn has been all eat up by the Burds namely Rocks and Ravines. In like manner I had a full Shew of Pees but was destroyed by the Sparers. Their as bean grate Mischief dun beside by Entymology—in some parts a complet Patch of Blight. Their has bean a grate Deal too of Robin by boys and

men picking and stealing but their has bean so many axidents by Steel Traps I don't like setting on 'em. Sir I partickly wish the Satiety to be called to consider the Case what follows, as I think mite be maid Transax-tionable in the next Reports:—

"My Wif had a Tomb Cat that dyd. Being a torture Shell and a Grate faverit, we had Him berrid in the Guardian, and for the sake of im-richment of the Mould I had the carks de-posed under the roots of a Gosberry Bush. The Frute being up till then of smooth kind. But the next Seson's Frute after the Cat was berrid, the Gozberries was all hairy—& moor Remarkable the Catpillers of the same bush was All of the same hairy Discription."

"I am Sir Your humble servant

"THOMAS FROST."

We must give some very feeling lines to a lady, though we cannot give her portrait (composed of fans) as the headpiece, nor the round-robin (a redbreast in the shape of a ball) as the tail.

"To Fanny."

'Gay being, born to flutter!'—Sale's Glee.

Is this your faith, then, Fanny?

What, to chat with every dun!

I'm the one, then, but of many,

Not of many but the one!

Last night you smiled on all, ma'am,

That appear'd in scarlet dress;

And your Regimental Ball, ma'am,

Look'd a little like a mess.

I thought that of the sogers

(As the Scotch say) one might do,

And that I, chosen Ensign Rogers,

Was the closest man and true.

But 'blood! your eye was busy

With that ragamuffin mob:—

Colonel Buddell, Colonel Dizzy,

And Lieutenant-colonel Cobb.

General Joblin, General Jodkin,

Colonels Kelly, Felly, with

Majors Sturgeon, Traffie, Bodkin,

And the Quarter-master Smith.

Major Powderum, Major Dowdrum,

Major Chowdrum, Major Bye,

Captain Tawney, Captain Fawney,

Captain Any-one—but I!

Deuce take it! when the regiment

You so praised, I only thought

That you loved it in abridgment;

But I now am better taught!

I went, as loving man goes,

To admire thee in quadrilles;

But, Fan, you dance fandangoes

With just any for that will!

I went with notes before us,

On the lay of Love to touch;

But with all the corps in chorus—

It is indeed too much!

You once—ere you contracted

For the army—seem'd my own;

But now you laugh with all the staff,

And I may sigh alone!

I know not how it chances,

When my passion ever dares,

But the warmer my advances,

Then the cooler are your airs.

I am, I don't conceal it,

But I am a little hurt;

You're a Fan, and I must feel it,

Fit for nothing but a flirt!

I dreamt thy smiles of beauty

On myself alone did fall;

But alas! 'Coz Fan tutti!

It is thus, Fan, thus with all!

You have taken quite a mob in

Of new military fakes:—

They would make a fine Round Robin

If I gave you all their names!"

And conclude with a laughable satire on emigration:—

"Squampash Flatts, 9th November, 1827."

"Dear Brother,—Here we are, thank Providence, safe and well, and in the finest country you ever saw. At this moment I have before me the sublime expanse of Squampash Flatts—the majestic Mudiboo winding through the midst—with the magnificent range of the Squab mountains in the distance. But the

prospect is impossible to describe in a letter! I might as well attempt a panorama in a pill-box! We have fixed our settlement on the left bank of the river. In crossing the rapids we lost most of our heavy baggage and all our iron work; but by great good fortune we saved Mrs. Paisley's grand piano and the children's toys. Our infant city consists of three log-huts and one of clay, which, however, on the second day, fell in to the ground landlords. We have now built it up again—and, all things considered, are as comfortable as we could expect,—and have christened our settlement New London, in compliment to the old metropolis. We have one of the log-houses to ourselves—or at least shall have when we have built a new hog-sty. We burnt down the first one in making a bonfire to keep off the wild beasts, and for the present the pigs are in the parlour. As yet our rooms are rather usefully than elegantly furnished. We have gutted the Grand Upright, and it makes a convenient cupboard; the chairs were obliged to blaze at our bivouacs,—but thank Heaven we have never leisure to sit down, and so do not miss them. My boys are contented, and will be well when they have got over some awkward accidents in lopping and felling. Mrs. P. grumbles a little, but it is her custom to lament most when she is in the midst of comforts. She complains of solitude, and says she could enjoy the very stiffest of stiff visits. The first time we lighted a fire in our new abode, a large serpent came down the chimney, which I looked upon as a good omen. However, as Mrs. P. is not partial to snakes, and the heat is supposed to attract those reptiles, we have dispensed with fires ever since. As for wild beasts, we hear them howling and roaring round the fence every night from dusk till daylight, but we have only been inconvenienced by one lion. The first time he came, in order to get rid of the brute peaceably, we turned out an old ewe, with which he was well satisfied;—but ever since he comes to us as regular as clock-work for his mutton; and if we do not soon contrive to cut his acquaintance, we shall hardly have a sheep in the flock. It would have been easy to shoot him, being well provided with muskets; but Barnaby mistook our remnant of gunpowder for onion seed, and sowed it all in the kitchen garden. We did try to trap him into a pit-fall; but after twice catching Mrs. P., and every one of the children in turn, it was given up. They are now, however, perfectly at ease about the animal, for they never stir out of doors at all; and, to make them quite comfortable, I have blocked up all the windows and barricaded the door. We have lost only one of our number since we came; namely, Diggory, the market-gardener, from Glasgow, who went out one morning to botanise, and never came back. I am much surprised at his absconding, as he had nothing but a spade to go off with. Chippendale, the carpenter, was sent after him, but did not return; and Gregory, the smith, has been out after them these two days. I have just dispatched Mudge, the herdsman, to look for all three, and hope he will soon give a good account of them, as they are the most useful men in the whole settlement, and, in fact, indispensable to its existence. The river Mudiboo is deep and rapid, and said to swarm with alligators, though I have heard but of three being seen at one time, and none of those above eighteen feet long; this, however, is immaterial, as we do not use the river fluid, which is thick and dirty, but draw all our water from natural wells and tanks. Poisonous

spring are rather common, but are easily distinguished by containing no fish or living animal. Those, however, which swarm with frogs, toads, newts, efts, &c. are harmless, and may be safely used for culinary purposes. In short, I know of no drawback but one, which, I am sanguine, may be got over hereafter, and do earnestly hope and advise, if things are no better in England than when I left, you, and as many as you can persuade, will sell off all, and come over to this African Paradise. The drawback I speak of is this: although I have never seen any one of the creatures, it is too certain that the mountains are inhabited by a race of monkeys, whose cunning and mischievous talents exceed even the most incredible stories of their tribe. No human art or vigilance seems of avail; we have planned ambuscades, and watched night after night, but no attempt has been made; yet the moment the guard was relaxed, we were stripped without mercy. I am convinced they must have had spies night and day on our motions, yet so secretly and cautiously, that no glimpse of one has yet been seen by any of our people. Our last crop was cut and carried off with the precision of an English harvesting. Our spirit stores—(you will be amazed to hear that these creatures pick locks with the dexterity of London burglars)—have been broken open and ransacked, though half the establishment were on the watch; and the brutes have been off to their mountains, five miles distant, without even the dogs giving an alarm. I could almost persuade myself at times, such are their supernatural knowledge, swiftness, and invisibility, that we have to contend with evil spirits. I long for your advice, to refer to on this subject;

"And am, dear Philip, your loving brother,
AMBROSE MAWE.

"P. S. Since writing the above, you will be concerned to hear the body of poor Diggorry has been found, horribly mangled by wild beasts. The fate of Chippendale, Gregory, and Mudge, is no longer doubtful. The old lion has brought the lioness, and the sheep being all gone, they have made a joint attack upon the bullock-house. The Mudiboo has overflowed, and Squampash Flatts are a swamp. I have just discovered that the monkeys are my own rascals, that I brought out from England. We are coming back as fast as we can."

On the Practicability of an Invasion of British India; and on the Commercial and Financial Prospects and Resources of the Empire. By Lieut.-Col. Evans. 8vo. pp. 147. London, 1829. Richardson.

In our review last year of Colonel Evans's Essay "On the Designs of Russia," (see the *Literary Gazette*, Aug. 23, 1828,) we recorded our opinion of the striking manner in which he had handled a subject calculated to produce the liveliest interest and excitement in the public mind; and he now, in his present publication, follows up and enlarges upon that work, in order to demonstrate the feasibility of the movement of a European force on Hindostan, as well as the probability of such an operation.

In fairness to the author, though again professing that we are not prepared to go all his lengths, we may notice, that one important review of his preceding volume seemed to treat as equally chimerical the author's predictions of the success of the Russian arms against the Turks as well as his opinions relative, not only to the probability, but even as to the possibility, of the Czar's making any movement calculated to shake our power in the East. Recent events in eastern Europe have too evidently shewn

the correctness of Col. Evans's foreboding respecting the first, and how greatly one writer erred in treating it in a manner so jocose. In his exulting remarks respecting what he (the opponent of our author's views) calls the "disastrous finale" of the first campaign, he thus concludes: "It is hoped that this disastrous campaign will have taught the young emperor a lesson of moderation, which will counsel him to seek for peace rather than conquest." In place, however, of "seeking for peace" from within the limits of his own territory, the "young emperor" has had the audacity to send his armies to demand it at the gates of Constantinople; and we doubt not but that many will now be more readily inclined to admit than they were at the commencement of the present year, that any apparent moderation evinced by the Czar in the terms granted to the Sultan is more the result of policy, than an exhibition of any deficiency of the means of commanding his standards to wave on the walls of the Seraglio.

In the work now before us, Col. Evans maintains, that one of the first objects of Russia, in the event of a war with Great Britain, will be an attempt towards the subversion of our power and influence in Hindostan; the plan of which, he infers, has been long since drawn out, and the organisation of it already considerably advanced. The line of march of a Russian invading force contemplated by him, is from the ports of Balkan and Mangoushlah on the Caspian, as a base, to Khiva, &c.; or from the Aral, as a base, on Attock, by the valley of the Oxus to Khiva, Bokhara, Balk, and Cabaul, "the climates of which are spoken of in terms of admiration, as delightful, salubrious, and invigorating, by the Russian and English envoys and officers who have lately visited them."

This is indeed staggering at first sight; but the importance of the subject, and the interest of the following quotations, will, we trust, sufficiently warrant their extent.

"Missions were almost simultaneously despatched (by Russia in 1819-20) to Bokhara, to Pekin, to Khiva, the Toorkomans, — previously to Khokand."

From the Russian Colonel Mouravief, who was employed on the diplomatic mission to Khiva, the author thus quotes:—

"At present, in spite of every obstacle, the external commerce is very advantageous to the Khivians; but it would be quite of another description if the country was subjected to a wise government. These regions would, in that case, arrive at a high degree of splendour, and all the commerce of the East and of India would direct itself to the north-western shores of the Caspian Sea; finally, the valuable products of Asia would thus pass by the way of Russia towards the west. This thought opens a vast field to the imagination! I will return to it in describing the actual state of Khiva. In the present time, with the knowledge which we have of the localities of the country, one might guarantee the success of such an enterprise (that of taking possession of Khiva). A corps of three thousand Russians, commanded by a determined and disinterested chief, would be sufficient to conquer and preserve this country, which would be so advantageous to Russia, by reason of the importance of its commercial relations with Asia. We are now in a condition to profit by the information we have acquired of this country — of the personages who occupy the first posts in the government of Khiva — of the secret disaffection of the Oosbeks to the Khaun Mohamed-Rahim — and of the favourable disposition of the Toorcomans with

regard to us. The attachment of the latter to Khiva only consists in their drawing their provisions from thence. In furnishing them (the Toorcomans) with grain, which it will be much more advantageous for them to derive from us than from Khiva, we shall easily make them embrace our cause. At Khiva even, we can augment our troops by recruiting the three thousand Russian slaves which are now there, and the thirty thousand Persian slaves, who suffer quite as impatiently as the Russians the miseries they at present have to endure. The only thing which appears to present some difficulty in the execution of this enterprise, is the passage of the steppe which surrounds Khiva: but this may be surmounted with great ease. We are now well enough acquainted with the route from the borders of the Caspian to Khiva; and as for provisions, should it be asked where these are to be procured—I answer, at Khiva itself, where they abound. For the means of transport we can make use of the camels of Toorcomans who inhabit the coast of the Caspian Sea, and who will anxiously press forward, no doubt, to second us; we can also procure horses from them that are habituated to the steppes. For the rest, it is enough to remember that as Mahomed Rahim penetrated in 1813 to the shore of the Caspian with twenty thousand cavalry, so we may feel assured of the possibility of arriving at Khiva with a less numerous corps of infantry, by previously making all the arrangements that might be necessary."

And likewise from Colonel Mouravief—"If we possessed Khiva, of which the conquest would not be difficult, the nomades of Central Asia would dread our power, and a commercial route would be established from the Indus and Oxus (or Amou) even into Russia; then would all the treasures of Asia enrich our country, and we should see realised the brilliant project of Peter the Great. Masters of Khiva, many other states would be brought under our dependence:—in a word, Khiva is at this moment an advanced post, which opposes itself to the commerce of Russia with Bokhara and Northern India; under our dependence Khiva would become a safeguard, which would defend this commerce against the attacks of the dispersed people in the steppes of Central Asia. This oasis, situated in the midst of an ocean of sand, would become the point of re-union for all the commerce of Asia, and would shake to the centre of India the enormous commercial superiority of the dominators of the sea."

And again, from Colonel Mouravief—"The Russian infantry, which spreads fear and terror amidst the ranks of Asiatic troops generally, and which even obtains an easy victory over the forces of a civilised state like Persia, certainly would disperse in a moment the Khivians, who are far from possessing the valour of the Persians. The order, the silence, and the calm approach of our columns, covered by some tirailleurs, would repulse bodies of men ten times more numerous than ours, afraid as they are of coming to within range of musket fire, and animated only by despair, which the easterns decorate with the name of valour. The five principal towns are equally enclosed by walls, and regarded by the Khivians as strong places. These earthen edifices, or fortifications, are not provided with a ditch, and can only defend the inhabitants against a small number of cowardly brigands, who happen not to have got at their disposal a ladder. A fort of this sort could not hold out for above a couple of hours against fifty Russian foot sol-

diers. So soon as we should have reduced a few of them, they would no longer dare to hold out even against a handful of men."

Thus it appears that Colonel Baron Mouravief, in his diplomatic character, represents to his government the advantage and necessity, both in a commercial and military point of view, of their taking possession of Khiva (the first great position to be occupied, according to our author, whose military knowledge we of the *Literary* have no vocation to question, in a hostile movement upon Hindostan);—points out the line of march of an invading force;—the facility of its accomplishment in respect to supplies and transport;—the utter inability of the Khivians to offer resistance to the Russians;—and its leading to "shake to the centre of India the enormous commercial superiority of the dominators of the sea."

The Russian Colonel, Baron Meyendorff, who was employed on the diplomatic mission to Bokhara, also says—"This communication (for the caravans) would be perfectly sure, if the Khanat of Khiva were subjected to Russia. Independently of a great commercial advantage, the acquisition of this Khanat would have that of diminishing enslavement, and the frightful commerce in human beings, especially Russian subjects, which the Toorcomans and Khirghis carry on; it would also augment the salutary influence of Russia in Western Asia. It would be (he adds) in skirting these mountains (between the Aral and the Caspian), at a distance of five, ten, or fifteen versts from the Aral Sea, that Russian troops could approach Khiva most easily."

The writer cites the annexed passage from Colonel M'Donald Kinneir, now our representative at the Persian court; from which he contends that that officer agrees with him in suspecting the plans of Russia, and is himself thoroughly convinced of the practicability of invading India.

"In the year 1791 (he states), when it was expected that a rupture would take place between England and Russia, a plan for the invasion of India was presented by the Prince de Nassau to the Empress Catherine II. This project is said to have been drawn up by the celebrated M. D. St. Genie, who proposes, I understand (for I have not seen the plan), that the army should either march down the plain of the Volga and cross the Caspian Sea, or move through Bokhara and Balk to the Indus. Of the many plans suggested for the invasion of Hindostan, that of crossing the Caspian, and sailing up the Oxus, appears to me to be the most easy of execution. The Oxus is navigable till within three or four days' journey of Balk; but previous to the embarkation of the army, boats must be constructed, and depôts of provisions must be formed. This, indeed, is the only manner in which, in my opinion, India can ever be invaded with a prospect of success."

And in another place—"Although the possession (says Colonel Kinneir) of that country (Hindostan) can be but of trifling advantage to a European power which does not command a maritime communication, it might be the object of Russia to deprive us of what it considers to be one of the chief sources of our strength. It is perhaps unnecessary (he continues) to remark that this dissertation was written before the downfall of Napoleon and the eventful changes in Europe, which, by the aggrandisement of Russia, have endangered the safety of our eastern possessions. It cannot, however, (the same writer states) be denied that the Persians would seize with avidity

any proposal of this nature (an invasion of British India). The love of plunder, the example of Nadir Shah, and the idea which they have formed of the wealth and weakness of our eastern possessions, would alike stimulate them to the undertaking. It was my determination, on quitting England, to visit all the countries through which a European army might attempt the invasion of India; and in prosecution of this plan, to explore the north-eastern parts of Persia, and the vast plains which stretch beyond the Oxus towards the confines of the Russian empire. . . . It were doubtless to be wished that we possessed some personal knowledge of the state and resources of so large and populous a kingdom as Bokhara, which, from its situation, must ever be considered as a most important barrier to the encroachments of Russia towards our oriental possessions."

Considering the high character of Colonel M'Donald Kinneir,—the duties in which he has been employed,—and the important situation he now holds at the Persian court,—his opinions, as expressed in the preceding quotations from his work, cannot but be acknowledged as powerful authority on the points discussed.

"As to the necessity of constructing boats on the Oxus, that (as will be seen by the reports of the Russian officers) may not be necessary, at least to any extent. The natives, it appears, employ large boats upon it, and in considerable numbers, capable of carrying as many as six laden camels, and some even so many as fifty horses. In moving up the river towards Bokhara and Balk with merchandise, they track, with horses, in the same manner used in the internal navigation of this country. Corroborative of the foregoing (opinions relative to an invasion of Hindostan) is the following, from the Survey of Eton, originally consul in Turkey, afterwards, for several years, secretary to the British Embassy at Petersburg; subsequently in the employ of the Russian premier and generalissimo, Potemkin:—"What might have been the event of such a war (1791) it is difficult to foresee; much conjecture may be made: I will only mention one circumstance, the naming of which is alarming, however it may be treated as romantic:—the empress had firmly resolved to attempt to send an army through Bokhara to Cashmere, to place the Mogul on the throne of India, and drive the British out of their possessions; and there were then in Russia Frenchmen, who had been sent into these parts by M. de Vergennes, and who offered to conduct the army. When the British fleet was about to sail for the Baltic, to force the empress to make peace, Prince Nassau, who was then in favour with her imperial majesty, presented a plan for sending an army through Bokhara to Cashmere, and thence to Bengal, to drive the English out of India. Little difficulty was foreseen in passing through Bokhara; it was even hoped, seeing the object was to re-establish on the throne of India a prince of their religion, that they would be friendly to the enterprise: however, were they not, little apprehension was entertained of a people so disunited among themselves, and who tremble at the name of Russia. St. Genie pretended that there were passes through the mountains, and that he had people who had been in the country, sent by M. de Vergennes. He presented with his project a map, and a march-route for the army. They counted on being joined in the north of India by the discontented from all parts."

In alluding to Caubul, Eton thus quotes

from an original paper: "The friendship of the Abdalli of Caubul may be of consequence to the English to cultivate, as the most effectual check on those who pass through Bokhara to invade India."

It will be observed, that Eton says little difficulty was foreseen in the march of an army through Bokhara. Respecting the present military character of that country, Colonel Evans writes as follows:—

"The same description of the state of the military art at Khiva will answer for Bokhara, with this difference, that the force may be three times as numerous; but it is even yet less warlike. They are mounted on beautiful horses, and can skirmish, but that is all. Their present king is a harmless bigot, and a pusillanimous devotee. By the walls of brick dried in the sun, which are described to surround their villages and principal towns, it appears that their notions on fortification are precisely on a par with those of the Khivians. 'Bucharian foot soldiers (says Jakovlev) under arms were drawn up on each side—they made a singular appearance, being men of different ages, old and young, dressed in robes of different colours; some had caps, others turbans, or only drawers; some had boots, others none; all held their matchlocks in both hands. They have but two words of command, 'rise,' and 'sit down'; they never pronounce the word 'fire!' because the matchlocks cannot fire, and because the Bucharians have, in fact, no infantry. Before our arrival, the khan had caused all the matchlocks to be collected; they got together 200, and the khan desired all persons to announce themselves who desired to hold a matchlock when the Russian embassy should come to visit him. Thus was formed this terrible Bucharian infantry, through which our procession passed to wait upon the vizier.' Their artillery consists of ten Persian guns, of which only three or four are mounted on carriages. These carriages have three wheels, and cannot be moved but with the greatest difficulty."

Having extended this article to our farthest possible limit, we can only at present add, that Col. Evans cites the Marquess Wellesley, Lord Minto, and Sir John Malcolm, in support of his opinions; and that his extracts from them are both historically curious and politically important.

Court and Camp of Buonaparte. Family Library, Vol. VIII. London, 1829. Murray.

This Number of the Family Library consists of a series of sketches of the lives of the persons most closely connected with the family, the civil government, and the military adventures, of Napoleon; varying in fulness of detail according to the writer's notions of their comparative importance, and, of course, the nature and extent of the materials furnished him by works previously published. By any one engaged in reading any history of Buonaparte this little volume will be found useful, in the way of reference and illustration; and we are only surprised that no attempt to supply so obvious a desideratum should have previously been made in this country. The longest, most interesting, and best-written of these biographies, is that of Murat, which extends to about thirty pages: that of Victor is comprised within six pages. We mention this, that the reader may have some notion of what he is to expect from our compiler, who appears to have exerted himself with much diligence in the collecting of facts, and whose brief reflections uniformly indicate a humane and candid spirit. As for his composition, we should say it is that of no very

practised hand—most probably of one who has seen more of *camp* than of *courts*; but he has had the good sense to translate and quote many very curious passages from works to which the ordinary English reader has no access; and as his own connecting narrative is modest and unambitious, we have no doubt his little volume will meet with a very favourable reception.

The author says, in his preface, that some of his statements, which are at variance with those of the Life of Buonaparte in the first Numbers of this miscellany, are grounded on the authority of M. de Bourrienne, "whose very able, interesting, and trustworthy Memoirs have appeared since the publication of that work." If he had waited a little, and examined the new edition of that Life of Napoleon, he would have found ample use therein made of Bourrienne's book, which certainly throws more light than any other on the early part of the emperor's career, and especially on his personal manners and opinions before he thought of sovereign power, and the extraordinary *mélange* of cunning and audacity by which he eventually ascended the throne.

This unpretending appendix to the Life of Napoleon is adorned with really exquisite engravings, on steel, of Murat, Soult, Talleyrand, and Massena; a head of Fouché, very well cut in wood by Mosses; one of Ney, in wood also, and by no means laudable; and, lastly, what was a good notion, a tabular view of the descendants of Carlo Buonaparte and his spouse Letitia, shewing the growth, decline, and present condition of the ex-imperial tree, at a glance. We select a few anecdotes from these pages.

"Cambaceres was a gourmand, and his table would have been daily crowded with guests, had not his disposition been somewhat penurious. Of this last foible there is an anecdote too characteristic to be omitted. He had directed a furniture-broker to bring him a table capacious enough for sixty covers. Accordingly it was brought, and ordered to be laid out in the dining-room. When this was done, he insisted that it was not of the requisite dimensions. His object was to procure by this means some abatement of the price; but the poor tradesman demurred. To settle the question, Cambaceres despatched one of his valets to bring in sixty masons, who were at that moment demolishing some buildings in the Place du Carrousel. The men were surprised at so unexpected a summons: they naturally supposed, however, that the great man wished some improvement to be immediately made in his palace, hastily cleaned themselves, and flew to the spot. When introduced into the dining-room, they were not a little amazed to find the table laid out with sixty covers. 'No doubt,' thought they, 'his highness has received good news from the army, and in the joy of his heart wishes to give us a treat!' This impression was confirmed when they were ordered to take their seats. But what was their amazement when, instead of the table being covered with dainties, Cambaceres, who was standing near them, called out, 'Act as if you were pouring out to drink! Seize your knives and forks! Seem as if you were cutting something on your plates!' The poor hod-men went through these evolutions with such regularity, as to remind us of the barber's brother in the Arabian Nights; but in one respect the parallel is imperfect—the imaginary feast was not succeeded by a substantial one: no sooner was his highness forced to acknowledge that the table was of the requisite capacity, than the tan-

talised guests were unceremoniously dismissed, without the slightest compensation for the time they had lost."

"In 1811, Maret (now Duke of Bassano) succeeded Champagny as minister for foreign affairs. Soon after, Talleyrand observed: 'In all France I know but one greater ass than Maret; that is the Duke of Bassano.'"

"A man who had lost his two sons in the Russian campaign was suspected of not being very heartily attached to the existing government: such, indeed, was the fact, but he was prudent enough to speak his mind only in presence of his most intimate friends; before the rest of the world he was mute, thereby baffling the efforts of the numerous hired spies whom Savary had placed over him. As he was one day seated in the garden of the Luxembourg, accompanied by a tried friend, the conversation began with the battle of Leipzig, which had recently taken place. In the sequel neither spared the despot, whose downfall they hoped was near at hand. In the midst of this confidential intercourse, a lovely little boy, apparently in his sixth year, came weeping towards them, crying that he had lost his nurse. They endeavoured to comfort him, telling him not to sob, for his nurse would not fail to seek him. During the quarter of an hour which he remained with them, they continued to converse on the same subject. Then a woman was seen to approach, with a child in her arms: no sooner did the boy perceive her, than he cried, 'there is my nurse!' and hastened to rejoin her. The very next morning both were arrested, and conducted to the Conciergerie. The childless parent was the first interrogated, and his surprise was not little to hear repeated, word for word, a portion of his conversation with his friend. His natural impression was that that friend had betrayed him, but he soon found his mistake. Both were immediately imprisoned, nor were they enlarged before the fall of Napoleon. Children of both sexes were employed in this execrable system of espionage."

"Among the malicious reports of the time (1808), was one which Napoleon was sure to lay hold of as a means of mortifying the man he disliked: it related to a high degree of intimacy said to be subsisting between Madame Talleyrand and Ferdinand of Spain, who was confined in the Castle of Valençay, belonging to the Prince of Benevento. The next time our prince appeared at court, the emperor eagerly taunted him on the subject. All eyes were turned towards him as he calmly replied: 'Well would it be, both for your majesty's glory and mine, if the Spanish princes were never again to be mentioned!' The impossibility of the prince's countenance, even when most agitated within, was truly remarkable. On this subject Murat had a coarse but expressive manner of speaking. 'Kick Talleyrand on the breech,' said his majesty, 'and then look at his countenance: it will not shew the slightest sense of the indignity.'"

The British Naturalist; or, Sketches of the more interesting Productions of Britain and the surrounding Sea, in the Scenes which they inhabit, &c. &c. 12mo. pp. 380. London, 1829. Whitaker, Treacher, and Co.

THOUGH startled by an expression in the title-page, and staggered by a declaration of war against systematic arrangement, as being hostile to study, in the preface to this volume, we must speak cordially in its praise, as presenting very delightful views of natural subjects as they are grouped and classed by Nature herself. The author, evidently a very intelligent and

observant person, takes in turn the mountain, the lake, the river, the sea, the moor, and the brook; and under these heads treats of their various products and inhabitants; and the effect of this method is certainly very pleasing and impressive. The literary matter is ably put together; and the wood-cut illustrations by W. H. Brooke and by Mr. Bonner, "from drawings by Harry Willson, Esq.," are all that could be wished in such a work. Having thus briefly and truly characterised the *British Naturalist*, and being unable to exhibit one of its entire features as an example of its merits, we must be content with a few almost random extracts, which we trust will suffice to support our very favourable opinion.

On the migration of animals, the author observes:—"From the nature of their powers of motion, the seasonal migrations of quadrupeds are necessarily limited. If they be inhabitants of islands, they cannot pass over the sea; and upon continents, large rivers, mountains, or deserts, limit their range. In Britain, the stag and the roe, which are found only in the uplands in the warm season, find their way to the warm and sheltered plains in the winter; and on more extensive lands some of the quadrupeds take longer journeys; but they are all comparatively limited, and extensive migrations are performed only by those animals that can make their pathways in the sea or the air. The seal, which during summer is found in such numbers on the dreary shores of Greenland, Jan Mayen, and Spitzbergen, finds its way to Iceland in the winter; but its migration is limited, and numbers still remain in the most northern regions that have been visited. The inhabitants of the water have, indeed, less necessity for seasonal changes of abode than those of the land, as the water undergoes less change of temperature, and as some of those sea animals which, like the seal, require to come frequently to the surface to breathe, do not require to remain long above water, or have much of their bodies exposed to the air. The grand inconvenience which they seek to avoid, appears to be the labour of keeping open those breathing holes, without which they could not live under the ice. Or, if there is any other instinct, it may be the desire of escaping their enemies, as the bears and the northern people watch them at their holes, and make them a sure and easy prey. Those who have not thought rightly upon the subject, are apt to say that they could not know of those dangers, and therefore could not seek to avoid them without experience. But that is part of the general error into which we are so apt to fall when we begin the study of nature. We make ourselves the standard of comparison, and think of the animals not only as if they had to deal with men, but as if they actually were men themselves. Whereas, in their natural state they need no teaching; and the danger, or the means of life, and the instinct by which the one is avoided and the other secured, are coexistent. We are in the habit of attributing superior sagacity to animals in certain stages of their being; as we give the 'old fox' credit for greater cunning. That may be, indeed must be, true, as regards the arts of man, because the means to which he resorts for the capture or destruction of animals are not natural; and thus it would be a violation of the law of nature to suppose that they should be met by a natural instinct. In situations which nature produces, the children of nature are never at a loss; but as the contrivances of man are no part of her plans, it would be contrary to the general law to suppose that they should

be instinctively provided against these. That they do learn a little wisdom from experience, is a proof that they are not mere machines; that they are something more than mechanical; that life in the humblest thing that lives, is different in kind from the action of mere matter; and that there runs through the whole of organised being, a philosophy which man, when he thinks of it, must admire, but which he cannot fathom. The animal, or even the plant, is not like an engine, confined to certain movements which it cannot vary, but has a certain range of volition (if we may give it the name), by means of which it can deviate a little from that which would otherwise be its path, if that path contain aught that is dangerous or inconvenient. Thus, if we would come to the living productions of nature with minds fit for learning those lessons which they are so well calculated for imparting, we must equally avoid two extremes, the one of which would lead us to confound organic being with the mere organic clods of the valley, and the other would lead us to confound their instantaneous impulses with deliberation, and measure instinct by the standard of reason. The migrations of birds are more remarkable, and have been more early and more carefully observed; and that birds should have a greater range, is in perfect accordance with the general law of nature. The apparatus with which the majority of birds are furnished for preparing their food for digestion in the stomach, confines that food within a smaller compass than the food of the quadrupeds. With the exception of the birds of prey, which can rend other animals for their subsistence, and are thus capable of living at all seasons of the year, the birds must subsist upon soft substances, as insects and their larvae, or the seeds and green and succulent leaves of plants; while quadrupeds, being furnished with organs of mastication, which, along with the saliva, reduce their food to a sort of pulp before it be swallowed, can subsist upon dry leaves and bark, and even upon twigs. Thus, in even the coldest countries there is still some food for a portion of those quadrupeds that live upon vegetables; and these again afford subsistence for the carnivorous ones, as well as for the more powerful birds of prey. In very cold places too, the smaller quadrupeds, and even some of the larger ones, are so constituted that they hibernate, or pass the winter in a state of torpidity, in which they have no necessity for food, and consequently none for change of place. But in the severity of the northern winter the food of the feathered tribes fails. The earth and the waters are bound up in ice, so that the worms and larvae are beyond their reach; the air, which in summer is so peopled with insects, is left without a living thing; the buds of the lowly evergreen shrubs, and those seeds which have fallen to the ground, are hid under that cold but fertilising mantle of snow, which, cold as it seems, secures the vegetation of the coming summer; the berries and capsules that rise above the snow are soon exhausted; and the buds of the alpine trees are generally so enveloped in resin and other indigestible matters, that they cannot be eaten. Thus the birds must roam in quest of food: nor is it a hardship,—it is a wise provision. Were they to remain, and had they access to the embryos of life in their then state, one season would go far to make the country a desert; and even the birds would be deprived of their summer subsistence for themselves and their young. They are also provided with means by which they can transport themselves, in average states of the weather,

without much inconvenience; and thus, while in migration they seek their own immediate comfort, they preserve other races of being. In some of the species, too, they preserve a portion of their own race. It has been mentioned that the young of the swan are unable to migrate the first year; and of most migratory birds there are always a few that are unable for the fatigue of migration. If the strong did not go away, the whole of the weak, and, in cases like that of the swan, the whole of the young, would perish. After the moulting takes place, in most birds, perhaps in all of them in a state of nature, the paternal instinct ceases to operate; they feel no more for the brood of that year. It is each for itself individually during the necessity of the winter; and when the genial warmth of the spring again awakens the more kindly feelings, the objects of those feelings are a new brood. In her march nature never looks back; her instinct is fixed on the present, and thus leads to the future, without any reference to that experience which the progress of reason and thought requires. In consequence of this, the strong would take the food from the weak, the active from the feeble, and the full-grown from their offspring, if nature were not true to her purpose, and prompted the powerful to wing their way to regions in which food is more easily to be found, and leave the young and the feeble to pick up the fragments that are left, in those places which they are unable to quit.

"The migration of fishes is even a more curious matter than that of birds, especially in those that alternately visit salt and fresh water. The water is their atmosphere—the element from which they elaborate the air necessary for their life and growth; and any change of air, even nearly as great as the change from salt water to fresh, would be fatal to any land animal with which we are acquainted. Change of temperature in the element which they breathe is that which land animals can endure best; while fishes are adapted to bear a change in the composition. The former are protected against variations of temperature by the heat of their bodies being in general greater than that of the air; for when the air is warm, they suffer and pant, probably because they have no excess of heat to enable them to decompose the air, and mix the oxygen with the blood and the superfluous carbon. Fishes do not bear their change so easily. A salmon, when caught in the open sea, dies if put into fresh water; and if one that has been for some months in fresh water be put into salt, it also dies. It is the same with almost every fish. Hence the breathing apparatus of a fish must undergo a change every time that it passes from the sea to fresh water, or from fresh water to the sea. These changes are not immediate; and therefore the fish linger awhile in the estuaries upon every journey, in order that, by the brackish water, and by that alternate play of fresh and salt water which is occasioned by the tides, they may prepare themselves gradually for their new element. Though, generally speaking, the sea pasture tends more to promote the growth, vigour, and fatness of the fish than the river pasture, yet it also demands the stronger organisation; and thus those fish that enter the rivers for the purpose of spawning, are all of delicate descriptions; and the young often linger so long about particular parts of the estuaries, that they are not unfrequently mistaken for distinct species. Still, all this is in strict accordance with principle, and affords (as, in fact,

every thing upon which we can reflect affords) a proof that, though the works of creation be many, the plan and the purpose are one. There is not one power to adapt the fish to the water, and another to adapt the water to the fish; the adaptation is reciprocal, clearly proving that the power is one. The whole is one complete machine; and no part can be wanted or subsist alone. If the accomplishment of any purpose demands a change of power, or even of structure, there is ample provision for the effecting of that. When young frogs, and naked larvae of insects, continue habitually in the water, they have the fins and the habits of fish; but when they change their abodes, they change also their forms and habits."

[To be continued.]

SIGHTS OF BOOKS.

An Epitome of General Knowledge, with Derivations, Illustrations, and Historical Extracts; combining Instruction and Amusement. By Mrs. Hedgeland (late Isabella Kelly) and her Daughter. 2 vols. 12mo. London, Darton and Harvey; Joy: Richmond, Hughes.

THE title-page so entirely explains the nature of this miscellany, that we have nothing to say of it but that it really combines much of the useful and agreeable; and to remind readers that it is (with some filial aid) the production of the authoress of many a tome which had its period in contributing to the light and entertaining reading of the day—such as *Madeline*, *Eva*, *Modern Incident*, *Baron's Daughter*, *Joscelina*, *Avondale Priory*, the *Secret*, *Ruthinglenne*, &c. &c., besides works of a more lasting character. Not only on account of the merits of the present publication, but on behalf of an old public favourite, who has (like most others, we fear) found literature a thorny and barren pursuit, do we earnestly recommend these small volumes to general favour: judgment and benevolence will equally sanction their patronage.

The Life of a Midshipman: a Tale founded on facts. 12mo. pp. 264. London, 1829. Colburn and Bentley.

WHETHER the object of this volume be patriotic in a country of great naval power, namely, "to correct an injudicious predilection in boys for the life of a sailor," it is hardly worth while to inquire: suffice it to say, that the tale is a pretty and interesting one, and the declared purpose of it defeated by its own extraordinary circumstances. If we wished to deter youths from entering the navy, the daily hardships and privations of a seafaring life might be forcibly adduced; but wonderful contingencies, unlikely to happen to any individual in the course of life, wrecks, pirates, &c. &c., have little effect upon the mind.

An Inquiry into the Causes of the Decline of Historical Painting, with the Means to be pursued for its Restoration. By Douglas Guest. 8vo. pp. 61. London, 1829. Simpkin and Marshall.

THIS is an essay written in answer to the following question, recently proposed by the Teylerian Society of Haarlem:

"What is the reason that the Dutch school of painting, even in the time of its greatest splendour, and also at this time, has produced so small a number of capital masters in the historic branch of painting, whilst it has constantly excelled in whatever relates to simple nature and the customary scenes of life? And what are the means to be pursued for the for-

mation of good history painters in this country?"

The paucity of great historical painters in the Dutch school, Mr. Guest imputes to the fact that the Dutch masters, however skilful in "the most felicitous combination of colours, and the most perfect imitations of their native scenes," were, and are, in general, "uninformed on matters of taste and literature, and consequently but ill prepared to illustrate subjects for which these acquirements are indispensable; or to contemplate the *beau-ideal* of nature, which can only be the result of refined associations and superior attainments." The remedy which he proposes, and which he justly observes is as applicable to other countries as to Holland, is to give to the young student in art such an education as, while it afforded him the opportunity of thoroughly grounding himself in the mechanical practice of his profession, should impart to him the mental vigour and refinement indispensable to excellence in the nobler efforts of the pencil. To this, Mr. Guest would add such subsequent encouragement and protection by the state, as might enable the artist of genius to pursue his studies undisturbed by any reference to mere worldly considerations.

Annals of the Peninsular Campaigns—from 1808 to 1814. By the Author of "Cyril Thornton." 3 vols. 12mo. Edinburgh, W. Blackwood; London, T. Cadell.

FROM the author of Cyril Thornton, with his Cesar-like accomplishments of sword and pen, much was to be expected on the subject of the war in Spain: and after all that has been written on that subject, it affords us pleasure to say that these popular volumes will be read with a new delight. Having received them at a late period of the week, when our sheet was already filled, we shall, at present, say nothing farther, but that they form an extremely interesting publication, and one likely to be highly acceptable to the British people.

Dr. McCrie's History of the Progress and Suppression of the Reformation in Spain in the Sixteenth Century. 8vo. Same Publishers. Of this volume, which reached us at the same time as the preceding, we have only room to say that it is a curious, a valuable, and a sterling work.

Memoirs of the Life and Times of Daniel de Foe, containing a Review of his Writings, and his Opinions, &c. &c. By Walter Wilson, Esq. of the Inner Temple. 3 vols. 8vo. London, 1830. Hurst, Chance, and Co.

DE FOE, the author of between two and three hundred publications, and, above all, the author of Robinson Crusoe, has a just claim to the revival of his memory at any period of English literature; and we hailed the announcement of this work with great expectations. We are disappointed in it. Mr. Wilson has bestowed great diligence and research, and his volumes are really full of De Foe's writings and history, consequently possess a certain degree of interest; but to us it appears that he has laboured trifles too much, and neglected subjects of far more popularity. Who cares at this day for the party squibs and pamphlets of a century ago?—few even in the gross, or when brought to throw a light on the great events of the times; and certainly none in the mere details of pamphleteering and squabbling. Still there is much in these volumes which will be read with interest; and we are only sorry there is not (as there well might have been) more. The writer himself seems imbued deeply with opinions which

hardly allow him to be an authority where we would look for truth.

Tales of Four Nations. 3 vols. 12mo. London, 1829. Whittaker, Treacher, and Arnot.

THE circumstances under which this first appeal of a novel writer to the public has been made, have been represented to us in so interesting a light by one of those authors whose talents and right feelings shed a lustre each on each, that if we were inclined to be critically severe upon it we could not. Nor yet will our sense of impartial justice permit us to praise the work for more than an honest effort to please the general reader. The class of novel-writing stands so high, that what was once excellence is now mediocrity, or even below that standard: but we pray encouragement for this attempt for better reasons than its literary merits, though the latter will suffice to entertain the numerous body who indulge in the circulating library.

ORIGINAL CORRESPONDENCE.

Paris, Nov. 16.

It is pretended by some mathematicians that each century must produce a certain portion of evil, and also that there is a leap year of crime, when unfortunate humanity is forced, *bongré et malgré*, to perform every vice contained in Lucifer's calendar, merely to prevent a deficit in the calculation of black deeds, and make evil bear a due proportion to good. We are now, it appears, bringing up the arrears of sinning left incomplete by our idle forefathers; at least, thus it was that, last evening, a little strange-looking man, in a bob wig, accounted for the numerous suicides, thefts, assassinations, &c. which have been committed in the last twelve months. Had the oracle in question been his Holiness or Saint Anthony, he could not have excited greater interest: each knock of his cane, or rather club, electrified his auditors into implicit faith, every blow having an enforcing effect on the intellects of his hearers. "Love," said the speaker, "engenders so many murders, ambition so many, hatred so many." In fact, to every sentiment he gave a numerous progeny of crime. Happily, he consoled his auditors by assuring them, that in a thousand years human passions would be so purified or deadened, that an incitement to evil would no longer be felt; but that we should live in a Platonic state, "bearing and forbearing," I suppose, like so many donkeys. Though the speaker produced several and various arguments to prove the reason of his reasonings, the thickness of my pericranium totally prevented my understanding them; but a pamphlet which he is about to publish on the subject will, no doubt, soon appear, and enlighten that enlightened part of creation who comprehend circles, squares, and triangles,—for it was by means of such that he has been enabled to tell, to a feather's weight, the quantum of sin up to the year nineteen hundred. During the lecture, my attention was attracted by the appearance of a gentleman, who each year surprises his friends at having survived the fall of the leaf. His visage preserved the same ghastly and ghostly appearance, but his person sported an *embonpoint*, which induced all former acquaintance to felicitate him on returning health, and his having *repris* his fat. *Repris* was not the word, for the poor man never possessed an ounce of flesh, and though now a very comely personage, he owes it all to *air*. I do not pretend to say he is aerial; but by means of a new-invented oil-skin garment, fabricated Heaven knows how, this spindle-shanked skeleton Monsieur is swelled into the fairest proportions.

It appears that any gentleman with whom nature has dealt scantily, has only to purchase one of these apparatus, into which, when decked with it, his valet de chambre must blow with all his might and main, for five minutes, through a narrow aperture or fictitious vein: Monsieur then may be said to be in full puff, and vie, at pleasure, with an Apollo or a Hercules. Who says that art is on the decline, and that we are retrograding? La Martine has become one of the Academy; and the jokers say, it is placing a nightingale with crows. Amongst the honours lately conferred, the decoration of the Légion d'honneur has been given to Dupuytren and Majendie.

ARTS AND SCIENCES.

ANCIENT AND MODERN EGYPT.

M. Champollion's Fourteenth Letter—concluded.

RELIGIOUS pictures executed with much care are under the shaft of the great and small pillars of the hypostyle hall. We there see successively all the Egyptian divinities of the first order, and principally the one whose worship belonged in a more especial manner to the Diospolitan nome, announce to Rhameses the benefits they intend to confer upon him, in return for the rich offerings which he presents to them. Here, as in the sculpture of the pillars and columns of the second court, we find in the first line the guardian divinities of the palace to whom this beautiful edifice was more particularly consecrated. They always take a title which is exactly translated by, "residing, or who reside, in the Rhamesseion of Thebes." At their head appears Ammon-Ra, in the form of king of the gods, or Ammon-Generator. Then come the gods Phtha, Phré, Atmon, Meni, Sev, and the goddesses Pascht and Hathor. Each of them grants to the Pharaoh a particular favour: the following are some examples of these forms of donation, taken from the galleries and colonnades of the Rhamesseion.

"I grant that thy edifice shall be as durable as heaven" (Ammon-Ra). "I give thee a long series of days to govern Egypt" (Isis). "I grant thee dominion over all countries" (Ammon-Ra). "I inscribe to thy name the royal attributes of the Sun" (Thoth). "I grant thee to conquer like Mandou, and to be vigilant as the son of Netpne" (Ammon-Ra). "I deliver to thee the south and the north, the east and the west" (Ammon-Ra). "I grant thee a long life to govern the world by a joyful reign" (Sev). "I give thee Upper Egypt and Lower Egypt to govern as king" (Netpne, i. e. Rhea). "I deliver to thee the barbarians of the south and those of the north to tread under thy sandals" (Thmet, i. e. justice). "I will open to thee all the good gates which are before thee" (the Guardian of the Celestial Doors). "I will that thy palace shall exist for ever" (Meui). "I grant thee great victories in all parts of the world" (the goddess Pascht). "I grant that thy name shall be impressed in the hearts of the barbarians" (the goddess Pascht).

The portion of the walls of the hypostyle hall which has escaped the destructive hand of man, presents scenes more rich and more developed. On the farther wall, to the right and the left of the central door, are still two vast pictures, remarkable for the large size of the figures and the excellence of the execution. In the first, the goddess Pascht with a lion's head, the wife of Phtha, the lady of the celestial palace, raises her right hand towards the head of Rhameses, which is covered with a helmet,

saying to him,—"I have prepared for thee the diadem of the Sun; let this helmet remain upon thy brow (forehead), where I have placed it." At the same time she presents the king to the supreme god Ammon-Ra, who, seated on his throne, holds towards the king's face the emblems of a pure life.

The second picture represents the royal investiture of the Egyptian hero; the two greatest divinities of Egypt investing him with the royal powers. Ammon-Ra, assisted by Mouth, the great divine mother, delivers to King Rhameses the *sithe* of battle, the primitive type of the harp of the Greek fables,—a terrible weapon, called *schopsch* by the Egyptians, and delivers to him at the same time the emblems of direction and moderation, the whip and the pedom, pronouncing the following words:—"Hear what Ammon-Ra says, who resides in the Rhamesseion,—receive the *sithe* of battle to awe foreign nations and to cut off the heads of the impure: take the whip and the pedom to direct the land of Keme" (Egypt).

The base of these two pictures affords a different kind of interest. Here are represented, on foot, and in the strict order of primogeniture, the sons of Rhameses the Great. These princes are habited in the costume peculiar to their rank. They bear the badges of their dignity—the pedom, and a fan made of a long ostrich plume, fixed to an elegant handle. They are twenty-three in number—a numerous family, it is true, but at which we shall not be surprised, when we remember that Rhameses had, as we know, two lawful wives, Queen Noré Ari and Isenofre; and it is, besides, very probable that the sons of the conqueror by concubines or mistresses, ranked with the legitimate children,—a custom which is confirmed by the whole ancient history of the East. However, over the head of each of the princes is sculptured, first, the title which is common to them all—namely, the son of the king and of his race; and for some of them (the first three, and consequently the eldest) the designation of the high functions with which they were invested at the time when these bas-reliefs were executed. Thus the first is styled fan-bearer to the left of the king, the young royal secretary, (basilicogrammate) commander-in-chief of the soldiers, the first-born and the preferred of his race, Amenhischosch; the second, named Rhameses, like his father, was fan-bearer to the left of the king and royal secretary, commander-in-chief of the soldiers of the master of the world, (the troops composing the king's guard); and the third fan-bearer to the left of the king, like his brothers, (a title given in general to all the princes upon other monuments), was also royal secretary, commander of the cavalry, namely, of the war-chariots of the Egyptian army. I omit here the names of the twenty other princes; and shall only remark, that the names of some of them certainly allude either to the victories of the king at the time of their birth,—such as Nebenschari (master of the country of the Schari), Nebenthonib (master of the whole world), Sanaschtenamoun (the conqueror through Ammon); or to new titles adopted in the protocol of Rhameses the Great—as, for instance, Pataveamoun (Ammon is my father), and Setpenri (approved by the Sun), a title which is met with in the prenomen of the king.

I observed, at the same time, in this series of princes, a very remarkable fact. After the death of Rhameses the Great, the one of the twenty-three sons who ascended the throne after him has been characterised in a particular manner. It was his thirteenth son, named Menephtha, that succeeded him. It is

plain that the costume of this prince was, in consequence, altered afterwards, by adorning his forehead with the urous, and changing the short sabou into a long royal tunic. Besides this, close to his first legend, containing the name of Menephtha, which he retained on ascending the throne, the first cartouche of his royal legend has been sculptured, (Sun, spirit loved by the gods), which is in fact found on all the monuments of his reign.

On leaving the hypostyle hall by the central door, we enter a hall which has preserved part of its columns, the decoration of which is of a very peculiar character. In that portion of the palace which we have just visited, general acts of homage are addressed to the principal divinities of Egypt, as was proper in courts or peristyles open to all the people, and in the hypostyle hall where the great assemblies were held. But here really begin the private parts of the palace, and the apartments which served for the habitation of the king; the place considered to be the more peculiar abode of the king of the gods, to whom this great structure was dedicated. This is proved by the bas-reliefs sculptured on the walls, to the right and left of the door, which represent four great barks or sacred bari, carrying a little naos, over which a veil is thrown, as if to conceal from all eyes the person it contains. These bari are borne on the shoulders of twenty-four or eighteen priests, according to the dignity of the master of the bari. The insignia which adorn the head and the stern of the first two barks are the symbolic heads of the goddess Mouth, and the god Chons, the wife of the son of Ammon-Ra. The third and fourth bear the heads of the king and queen, adorned with the marks of their dignity. These bas-reliefs, as we are informed by the hieroglyphic legends, represent the two divinities, and the royal pair coming to do homage to the father of the gods, Ammon-Ra, who fixes his abode in the palace of Rhameses the Great. The words pronounced by each of the visitors leave no doubt on this head: "I come," says the goddess Mouth, "to do homage to the king of the gods, Ammon-Ra, the moderator of Egypt, in order that he may grant long years to the king, his son Rhameses, who loves him."—"We come to thee," says the god Chons, "to serve thy majesty, O Ammon-Ra, king of the gods! Grant a stable and pure life to thy son, who loves thee, the lord of the world."—"King Rhameses says only, "I come to my father, Ammon-Ra, following the gods whom he admits to his presence for ever."—"But the Queen Noré Ari, here surnamed Ahmosis, expresses her wishes more positively—"Hear what is said by the goddess consort, the royal mother, the royal spouse, the powerful lady of the world, Ahmosis Noré Ari: I come to render homage to my father Ammon, king of the gods; my heart rejoices in thy affection: I am in delight when I contemplate thy benefits. O thou who fixest the seat of thy power in the abode of thy son, the lord of the world, Rhameses, grant him a stable and pure life; let his years be counted by periods of panegyrics."

Lastly, the wall at the farther end of this apartment was adorned with several sculptures representing the accomplishment of these wishes, and recording the favours which Ammon-Ra granted to the Egyptian hero: only one now remains, on the right of the door. The king is represented as seated upon a throne at the foot of that of Ammon-Ra Atmou, and in the shade of the spreading foliage of a persea, the celestial tree of life. The great god and the goddess Saf, who presided over writing or

learning, tracing on the cordiform fruits of the tree the cartouche containing the prenomen of Rhameses the Great; while, on the other side, the god Thoth carves the cartouche containing the proper name of the king, to whom Ammon-Ra Atmou addresses the following words: "Come, I sculpture thy name for a long series of days, that it may subsist upon the divine tree."

The door leading from this hall to a second, which was also decorated with columns, of which four still remain, deserves particular attention, as well for the workmanship as for the sculptures which adorn it. The sculptures that cover the architrave and the jambs are in such low relief, that it is evident they have been carefully rubbed down, to diminish their projection. I ascribed this to time and to barbarism, which have certainly acted upon several parts of these surfaces; for, having caused the lower parts of the jambs of this door to be cleared, I read a dedicatory inscription of Rhameses the Great, in the usual form of dedications for doors; but it adds, that this door was covered with pure gold. I then looked at the surface with more care, and, on examining more closely the kind of white and fine stucco which still covered some parts of the sculpture, I perceived that this stucco had been spread upon a cloth applied to the sculptures; that the contours and the projecting parts of the figures had been restored upon the stucco before the gilding was applied to it. As the process appeared to me to be curious, I have thought it proper to mention it here.

But the two pictures which adorn this door afford a much more lively interest. The architrave and the upper part of the jambs are covered with a dozen little bas-reliefs, representing King Rhameses adoring the members of the Theban triad. These divinities all turn their backs to the entrance of the door in question, because they are connected only with the first hall, and not with the second, to which this door is the entrance. But at the bottom of the jambs, and immediately above the dedication, two divinities are sculptured, with their faces turned towards the opening of the door, and looking towards the second hall, which was, consequently, under their jurisdiction. These two divinities are, on the left hand, Thoth with the ibis head, the god of sciences and arts, the inventor of letters; and on the right, the goddess Saf, the companion of Thoth, bearing the remarkable title of Lady of Letters and Presidentess of the Library (literally, the hall of books). Besides, the god is followed by one of his attendants, who, by his legend and a large eye which he bears upon his head, we recognise to be the sense of sight personified; while the attendant of the goddess is the sense of hearing, characterised by a large ear, drawn also over his head, and by the word *sotem* (the hearing) sculptured in his legend: he, besides, holds in his hand all the implements of writing, as if to write down all that he hears.

I ask whether it is possible to indicate better than by such bas-reliefs the entrance of a library? And at this word, the controversy which divides our learned men respecting the celebrated monument of Osymandyas, so well known for its library, and on its connexion with the Rhamesseion, naturally occurs to me.

At the very beginning of my visit, when reading in the midst of the ruins of the Rhamesseion the description which Diodorus has preserved, I was struck on finding around me, and in the same order, the analogous parts, and almost the most trifling details, of the great edifice, of which Diodorus has borrowed from

Hecateus so complete a description. In the first place, the old Greek traveller places the monument of Osymandias at the distance of ten stadia from the last tombs of what he calls the *παλλακίδας του Διός*, the concubines of Jupiter (Ammon). We have, in fact, found, at nearly an equal distance from the Rhamesseion, a valley containing the tombs, still adorned with painting and inscriptions, of twelve women, but of Egyptian queens, whose first title in their legend was always that of Consort of Ammon. The monument of Osymandias had in front a great pylon of variegated stone (*λίθου ποικίλου*). The first pylon of the Rhamesseion, the massive walls of which are of reddish freestone, and the door of white limestone, has some analogy with this description. From this pylon was the entrance into a peristyle, the pillars of which were ornamented with colossal figures; then followed a second pylon, much more carefully executed than the former with respect to the sculpture, and at the entrance of which was the greatest colossus in Egypt, of one single block of granite of Syene. All this resembles the Rhamesseion, except some difference in the measures; but we are not certain that the ancient copyists have transcribed these measures correctly. There we still see the immense fragments of the greatest known colossus of Egypt, of Syene granite—these are remarkable circumstances.

In the peristyle which succeeded the pylon, says Hecateus, was represented the king, who is called Osymandias, making war against the rebels of Bactria, besieging a city surrounded by a river, &c. &c. This is the exact description of the bas-reliefs which still exist under the second peristyle of the Rhamesseion; and if we no longer see the lion fighting with the king against the enemy's troops, nor the four princes commanding divisions of the army, it is because the walls at the farther end of the peristyle are destroyed, and only the eighth part now exists. It is true that we elsewhere see, on the monuments of Egypt, kings besieging cities surrounded by a river: this is really the case at Ypsamboul, at Derri, on the pylons of Luxor, and the Rhamesseion; but these are all monuments of Rhames the Great, and represent the events of the same campaign.

On the second wall of the peristyle, says the description of the monument of Osymandias, are represented the captives brought back by the king from his expedition; they have no hands; and on the back wall of the peristyle of the Rhamesseion I have discovered, by digging, the remains of a picture in which prisoners are brought to the king, at whose feet is a pile of hands cut off. On a third side of the peristyle of the monument of Osymandias were represented sacrifices, and the triumph of the king on his return from this war. In the Rhamesseion, the upper part of the wall, on which the battle is sculptured, represents the end of a grand religious solemnity, at which the king and the queen were present: and this picture began, without any doubt, on the wall at the back of the right side of the peristyle. After that, says the Greek historian, we enter the hypostyle hall of the monument of Osymandias by three doors, ornamented with two colossal. All this is found in the Rhamesseion, and likewise immediately after the second peristyle. After the hypostyle of Osymandias came an open space, designated in the French translations by the name of *promenoir* (the walk). In the Rhamesseion, a hall, decorated with the symbolical barks of the gods, succeeds the hypostyle hall. Then, says Diodorus, came the library; and it is, in fact, on the door which

leads from the promenoir of the Rhamesseion to the next hall, that I have found bas-reliefs so suitable for the entrance of a library. The hall of the library is at present almost entirely razed. There remain of it only four columns and a portion of the walls to the right and left of the door. On these walls are sculptures representing the king making offerings in succession to the greatest divinities of Egypt—to Ammon-Ra, Mouth, Chons, Phré, Phtha, Pascht, Nofri-Thmon, Atmou, and Mandou; and besides, the greater part of these walls is occupied by two enormous representations, divided into numerous vertical columns, in which are three long series of names of divinities, and their images of a small size: it is a complete pantheon. The king, standing before each of these synoptical representations, makes libations and offerings to all the gods and goddesses, great and small, by name; and this is another resemblance with the monument of Osymandias. In fact, the Greek description says: "In the hall of the library are seen the images of all the gods of Egypt: the king presents to them, in the same manner, offerings suitable to each of them."

This comparison of the ruins of the Rhamesseion with the description of the monument of Osymandias preserved by Diodorus Siculus, has already been made, and much more in detail, by MM. Jollois and Devilliers, in their general description of Thebes,—an important work, on which I am happy to bestow the praise that is its due, because I have seen the place, and have been able to judge by my own eyes of the correctness of their descriptions. But I have thought it necessary to give a slight sketch of this parallel, because I desire to put in their true place some new facts which I have observed, and which render so striking the analogy of the monument described by the Greeks with that of which I have studied the ruins. The two learned travellers whom I have just quoted have shewn this identity: others have contested it: for my part, the following is my profession of faith. Either the monument described by Hecateus, under the name of the monument of Osymandias, is the same as the western Rhamesseion of Thebes; or the Rhamesseion is only a copy, with the exception of the difference in the measures, if we may say so, of the monument of Osymandias.

Here terminate the ruins of the palace of Sesostrius. There remain no traces of his later buildings, which must have extended towards the mountain. The Rhamesseion is, of all the monuments of Thebes, that which is in the most dilapidated state; but it is also, without any doubt, that which, by the elegant majesty of its ruins, leaves the most profound and durable impression on the mind of the traveller.*

* By a letter just received from Captain Briggs, we are informed that M. Champollion and his companions, and also the Tuscan portion of the Egyptian expedition, were on the eve of embarking for Europe. They are now, therefore, on their way home, with all the treasures of ancient lore they have collected. In the meantime we may remark, that though less publicity has been given to their discoveries and labours, Englishmen have not been behind the rest of the world—but, on the contrary, the leaders—in these interesting investigations. Mr. Banks' portfolio has long been known to be rich in hieroglyphic literature; and more recently, we have seen fac-similes of almost all the important inscriptions and pictures visited by M. Champollion, copied during ten years' stay in Egypt by Mr. Wilkinson; others by Major Orlando Felix; and others by Mr. Burton. It may well be supposed, that collections made with such care, and employing so long a time, are at least fully equal to all that could be acquired during a hurried expedition: and, without detracting from the merits of our foreign rivals in this invidious inquiry, which we highly appreciate, we think we may fairly put in our own national claim for great consideration and great success. By an advertisement in our *Gazette* of this date, it will be farther seen that the Royal Society of Literature is warmly advancing

ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

THE death of a male ostrich, which had been for some time in the collection of the late Marchioness of Londonderry, and subsequently presented, with other valuable animals, to the Zoological Society, has afforded an opportunity, which rarely occurs, of examining the internal structure of that extraordinary bird, in comparison with that of man and other animals. The dissection took place in the Gardens of the Society, under the direction of Mr. Brookes, who introduced a variety of preparations in illustration of the anatomical peculiarities of the ostrich. The examination, which occupied two days, excited much interest, and attracted a scientific and numerous audience. The animal that formed the subject of it had been for some time in ill health, occasioned, in the first instance, by an accident which happened to it before it became the property of the Society. A female ostrich, which was presented at the same time, is still living in the Gardens.

The Society, we are informed, has also received from India the body of a female orang-outang, which has recently been sent over in spirits by George Swinton, Esq. a corresponding member of the Society. An examination of the internal anatomy of this animal, which approaches so nearly to that of man, and admits of much interesting illustration, will, it is presumed, form a subject of considerable curiosity among the scientific visitors of the establishment. It will take place at the Gardens in the course of the present month. The male orang-outang, which has survived its companion, is now, we believe, on its way to this country; and, if it arrives in safety, will be an important addition to a class of animals which has afforded so much amusement to the Zoological public during the summer. Models of these two animals, sent from India by the same gentleman, are now in the Society's museum, in Bruton Street: they are the work of native artists, and display considerable skill and ingenuity.

LITERARY AND LEARNED.

OXFORD, Nov. 14th.—Thursday last the following degrees were conferred:—

Bachelor in Civil Law.—Rev. F. Gooch, Fellow, All Souls' College.

Masters of Arts.—Rev. R. W. Bosanquet, Rev. J. F. Alleyne, Balliol College; Rev. E. B. St. John, St. Alban Hall; J. Trotman, Worcester College; Rev. W. Leslie, Rev. M. Getley, Lincoln College; Rev. J. G. Dowling, Wadham College.

Bachelors of Arts.—H. Tuffnell, J. Dixon, Christ Church College; Grand Compounders; G. Richards, All Souls' College; H. T. Worley, Queen's College; G. H. Clifton, Scholar, Worcester College; R. Poole, Exeter College; W. H. Newbolt, R. Price, E. Payne, Fellows, New College.

CAMBRIDGE, Nov. 14th.—The subject of the Norrison prize essay for the ensuing year is—*The Christian Religion the last Revelation to be expected of the Will of God*.

THE STUART PAPERS.

AWARE of the great interest that has been and is attached to the remarkable documents, known by the name of the *Stuart Papers*, which were brought from Rome after the death of Cardinal York, the last of the family, and placed in the hands of commissioners appointed by his Majesty, we are glad to find that they are no longer likely to remain in the obscurity of St. James' Palace, where they were depo-

the knowledge of hieroglyphic literature, to which Dr. Young's fasciculi are of the utmost consequence; and we may add, that at the last meeting of this Society (see Report) a Part of Mr. Wilkinson's very interesting specimens, lithographed at Cairo, was presented, and excited great attention. As yet, we have examined no work so evidently throwing a clear light on the reigns of the Pharaohs; and we rejoice to have an English copy of these records to compare with M. Champollion's, when the latter shall appear.—Ed. L. G.

sited. The King, we are informed, has now transferred these papers to Sir Walter Scott, for examination and publication; and we have reason to know, that his son-in-law, Mr. Lockhart, is already engaged in this important duty, and actively employed in arranging the mass, which certainly could not be in better hands.

ROYAL SOCIETY.

THURSDAY (Season 1829-30), the President in the chair. The meetings were resumed this evening. Part of a long and able paper, from the pen of Mr. Faraday, on the manufacture of glass for optical purposes, was read. As we shall have the satisfaction of laying it before our readers in a subsequent number, we need not offer any analysis of it at present. A folio edition, in five vols. of the Catalogue of the King's Library, presented by his Majesty, and other literary presents, were made, for which thanks were voted to the donors.

ROYAL SOCIETY OF LITERATURE.

THE Society's library continues to be enriched by numerous contributions. Among the volumes laid upon the table at the first meeting for the season, were the works of the Baron Silvestre de Sacy, consisting chiefly of publications from, or commentaries upon, Arabic literature, as the "Séances de Hariri," "Chrestomathie Arabe," &c. The same liberality on the part of the members and correspondents of the Society was evinced at the last meeting, in the donations of Mr. Millingen, who presented his splendid publication on Greek Vases, his "Medallie History of Napoleon," &c.; in the "Traditions of Lancashire," by J. Roby, Esq., a member; and in interesting works of other contributors. The Society's Collection of Hieroglyphics was augmented by the addition of the third part of Mr. Burton's "Excerpta Hieroglyphica," printed at Cairo; and by No. 1 of a similar work, likewise executed in Egypt, by Mr. Wilkinson.

The paper read was "On an extraordinary collection of Oriental Alphabets," by Sir Wm. Ouseley. The manuscript containing the collection referred to was procured at Calcutta by Lord Teignmouth, and exhibits several hundred alphabets. In showing that while some of these are probably nothing else than ciphers, invented for the purpose of secret correspondence between individuals, others are, probably, altogether imaginary, the writer noticed the extravagant opinions entertained by the learned of former times relative to the origin of alphabetic characters; such as their being invented by angels, their communication to Adam by Divine revelation, &c. The Persepolitan character is found in this collection; but the copyist, or collector, appears to have indulged his fancy by combining the simple element of the arrow, or wedge, into more complicated forms than we can suppose to have ever been in actual use. For the purpose of illustrating this part of his subject, two specimens of marble, inscribed with the arrow-headed character, brought by Sir W. from Persia, were produced for the inspection of the meeting. The surface of one of these fragments appears to be partially covered with a yellowish paint, or similar composition, mistaken by travellers for gold; from which circumstance the writer was led to some ingenious remarks, tending to point out the probability that the singular anomaly in taste which prevailed among the Greeks and Romans, in adding painting and gilding to their sculptures, may have been derived from the practice of the Persians.

The fifth Fasciculus of the Society's publica-

tion of Hieroglyphics, hitherto conducted by the late Dr. Young, would, it was stated, shortly appear, under the auspices of some of its members, of acknowledged Egyptian learning, from drawings left by that lamented antiquary.

FINE ARTS.

THE BRITISH INSTITUTION.

ON Wednesday there was a private view, at the British Gallery, of the studies which have been made from the pictures of the old masters, forming part of the late exhibition, but left, according to the liberal usage of the Institution, as a small and temporary, though valuable, school of painting. We deeply regret to say, that the number of students, male and female, has been much larger during the present than during any preceding season. We regret it, for reasons which we have too frequently repeated to render it necessary again to state them; and we shall therefore content ourselves with most earnestly advising nine-tenths of these young persons to devote themselves, ere it become too late, to some less ambitious, but more profitable, pursuit.

The pictures which have evidently been the favourite subjects of study are, "the Holy Family," by Sir Joshua Reynolds, and "Landscape, with Market-People," by Gainsborough, belonging to the British Institution; the "Portrait of a Lady," by Rembrandt, belonging to Lord Wharnclyffe; the "Full-length Portrait of an elderly Gentleman," and "Full-length Portrait of an elderly Lady," by Vandyke, belonging to Mr. Peel; the "Inside of a Kitchen," by Maas, belonging to Mr. Hamlet; the "Woman milking a Cow," by Cuyper, belonging to Mr. Zachary; the "Holy Family, with St. Catharine," by Titian, belonging to Sir J. Roe Reid; the "Portrait of a Venetian Senator," by Titian, belonging to Sir A. Hume, &c.

And first for our distinguished countrymen. If there were as many real "Holy Families" in England as there are at present representations of them on the walls of the British Gallery, we should indeed be a pious people. We have no hesitation in saying that a small copy in water-colours, by Miss Fanny Corbux, combines more of the various qualities of the original than any other in the room: it exhibits all Sir Joshua's breadth, and yet is highly and beautifully finished in those parts in which it ought to be so. Mr. Middleton and Mr. Boaden have made two of the finest copies, in oil, as large as the original; and, besides some very able studies of various sizes, by Mr. Fisk, Mr. Childe, Mrs. Pearson, &c., there are several, out of sight and out of light, which, for aught we know, deserve particular notice.—We have a great respect for Mr. F. W. Watts; but what business had he in the Gallery, except as a spectator, not an imitator? His own style is too excellent and true to nature to require any change. As to his copy of Gainsborough, it is a fac-simile. There are also two very clever studies of the picture by Mr. A. Johnson and Mr. Passmore; and a beautiful little copy in water-colours by Mr. Fussell.—There are numerous studies from Rembrandt's "Portrait of a Lady." Of those which are on a level with the eye, and of which we are therefore enabled to form a judgment, the best strike us to be by Mr. Buss, Mr. Irvine, Mr. P. Simpson, and Mr. Middleton. Time, which has done much for the splendid but mellow original, will likewise do much for these imitations of it.—Of Vandyke's "Elderly Lady and elderly Gentleman" there

is also a grave and goodly assemblage. The smaller studies seem to us to be in general the most happy. Mr. Irvine and Mr. Fisk have each one of the male subject in oil; and Mr. Heaphy an exquisite one in water. Mr. R. Bone also has two clever drawings from these subjects. Of that exceedingly brilliant and difficult picture by Maas, "The Inside of a Kitchen," Mr. Fowler has made a highly successful copy; as has also Miss Alabaster, the warmth of whose colouring is certainly not in consonance to her name. Though too highly placed to be critically examined (and several others are in a similar predicament), a study of this picture by Mr. W. Bone appears to possess considerable merit. To Mr. Lee, who has produced an admirable copy of the Cuyper, we say what we said to Mr. Watts:—It may be well for an artist of his original genius to look at fine old pictures; but let him paint from nature, and only from nature. Mr. Earl's study is also a close approximation to the master. There are several other very clever imitations of this glowing work.—Of Titian's "Holy Family" there is a small copy in oil—we regret to say that we cannot remember the name of the artist—which requires only the operation of time to assimilate its tones to those of the original. Mr. Heaphy has also made a delicious copy in water-colours. The same great master's "Venetian Senator" has found a very able imitator in Mr. Fisk. Besides the above mentioned, which are among the most prominent, there are some clever studies after the above, as well as Canaletti, De Hooe, Teniers, Berghem, &c. by Mr. Watts, Miss Du Jardin, Mr. Earl, Mr. Novice, Mr. Sargent, Mr. McClise, Mr. Rosenberg, &c.

After experiencing the monotony of feeling which attends the contemplation of so many repetitions of pictures, we were relieved and refreshed by the sight of an original—a free transfer to canvass, by Mr. J. Scarlett Davis, of the Interior of the British Gallery itself. It contains a combination of the various excellencies which the walls of the Gallery exhibit. The subjects introduced are not detailed, but their general character is happily expressed. The regular architectural forms of the rooms are judiciously broken by busts and a curtain; and the whole is richly and harmoniously coloured. We must also notice another departure from servile imitation, in a beautiful picture in water-colours, by Miss Fanny Corbux, of two children. The head of the infant Christ, in Sir Joshua's "Holy Family," is the only copied portion of this little work; the rest is original composition, finely adapted to Sir Joshua's general style.

One hint,—we are not sure that we have not given it before,—to the younger students in future years. When they enter the Gallery, they ought to endeavour to forget all the processes of painting to which they have been accustomed, and to endeavour to discover those of the great masters before them: they should act like a judicious traveller, who, for a while, lays aside the habits of his own land, and tries to accommodate himself in every respect to the manners and usages of the countries which he visits.

ORIGINAL POETRY.

THE SISTER'S VOICE.

"O what a voice is silent!"—Barry Cornwall.
O my sister's voice is gone away!
Around our social hearth
We have lost its tones, that were so gay,
So full of harmless mirth—

We miss the glancing of her eye,
The waving of her hair,
The footsteps lightly gliding by,
The hand so small and fair;
And the wild bright smile that lit her face,
And made our hearts rejoice—
Sadly we mourn each vanished grace,
But most of all her voice.

For oh! it was so soft and sweet
When it breathed forth in words;
Such tones it had as hearts repeat
In echoes on their chords;
And lovely when in measure soft
She sung a mournful song,
And heavenly when it swelled aloft
In triumph chorus strong;
And dearest when its words of love
Would soothe our bosoms' care,
And loveliest when it rose above
In sounds of praise and prayer.

O, in my childhood I have sate,
When that sweet voice hath breathed,
Forgetful of each merry mate—
Of the wild flowers I had wreathed;
And though each other voice I scorned
That called me from my play,
If my sweet sister only warned,
I never could delay.
'Twas she who sang me many a rhyme,
And told me many a tale,
And many a legend of old time
That made my spirit quail.

There are a thousand pleasant sounds
Around our cottage still—
The torrent that before it bounds,
The breeze upon the hill,
The murmuring of the wood-doves' sigh,
The swallow in the eaves,
And the wind that sweeps a melody
In passing from the leaves,
And the pattering of the early rain,
The opening flowers to wet,—
But they want my sister's voice again,
To make them sweeter yet.

We stood around her dying bed,
We saw her blue eyes close;
While from her heart the pulses fled,
And from her cheek the rose.
And still her lips in fondness moved,
And still she strove to speak
To the mournful beings that she loved,
And yet she was too weak;
Till at last from her eye came one bright ray,
That bound us like a spell;
And as her spirit passed away,
We heard her sigh, "farewell!"

And oft since then that voice hath come
Across my heart again;
And it seems to speak as from the tomb,
And bids me not complain:
And I never hear a low soft flute,
Or the sound of a rippling stream,
Or the rich deep music of a lute,
But it renews my dream,
And brings the hidden treasures forth
That lie in memory's store;
And again to thoughts of that voice gives
birth—

That voice I shall hear no more.

No more!—it is not so—my hope
Shall still be strong in Heaven—
Still search around the spacious scope
For peace and comfort given.
We know there is a world above,
Where all the blessed meet,
Where we shall gaze on those we love,
Around the Saviour's feet;

And I shall hear my sister's voice
In holier, purer tone—
With all those spotless souls rejoice,
Before the Eternal Throne.

Worton Lodge, Isleworth.

M. A. BROWNE.

DRAMA.

DRURY LANE.

If an interesting plot, admirable situations, dialogue alternating between the sportive and the affecting, beautiful scenery, excellent acting, and powerful stage effects, can secure popularity to a drama, *the Brigand*, by Mr. Planché, produced here on Wednesday evening, will have a most successful run, as it had a most auspicious commencement. We seldom like to detail the stories of dramatic pieces, because it diminishes the pleasure with which they are seen; and therefore it shall suffice on this occasion to notice that the author has completely realised the extraordinary class of banditti who have for years infested the Roman states. *Massaroni*, the captain whose adventures are represented, though a being of incredible audacity and vicissitude, and though both he and his associates display an unnatural mixture of religious, or rather superstitious, feelings, with the commission of the deepest crimes, yet are they not overdrawn, but true to the life as life itself. In short, this performance strictly embodies the actual brigandage of Italy, as described in the most authentic accounts that have been published (and some in our own possession, with which we shall hereafter entertain our readers), and places before us, in the forms of skilful actors, the pictures of Davis, Brockedon, Eastlake, and other artists, who have studied the subjects on the spot. Throughout its whole progress *the Brigand*, thus finely constructed and ably supported, was received with unmixed applause; and at the fall of the curtain, on its very striking catastrophe, the audience joined in one hearty shout of acclamation. We have never witnessed so marked a triumph for so unassuming a production; but Mr. Planché's knowledge of the stage, and attention to every point which can add verisimilitude to dramatic composition, gives him a great advantage and mastery in these apparently slight but important particulars. Wallack, as the Robber-chief, greatly distinguished himself in every part, whether of reckless gaiety, daring insolence, or natural sentiment: Mr. Farren, in *Prince Bianchi*, was also as efficient as possible. Mrs. W. Barrymore contributed much to the picturesque of the tableaux; and Miss Faucit the heroine, Mr. Vining and H. Wallack as artists. Webster, as an old steward, did every thing that either author or spectators could desire. The music is exceedingly pretty; an opening round very sweet, and a chorus at the end of the first act delightful: among the rest, a song sung by Wallack may be quoted as a theatrical curiosity, which had a charming effect.

"Gentle Zitella,
Whither away?
Love's ritornella
List while I play."

"No, I have linger'd
Too long on my road:
Night is advancing—
The Brigand abroad—
Lonely Zitella
Hath too much to fear:
Love's ritornella
She may not hear."

"Charming Zitella,
Why shouldst thou care?
Night is not darker
Than thy raven hair!
And those starry eyes
If the Brigand should see,

Thou art the robber—
The captive is he!
Gentle Zitella,
Banish thy fear—
Love's ritornella
Tarry and hear!"

She enters, and after a pause he sings, with
with great éclat—

"Simple Zitella,
Beware, O beware!
List ye no ditty—
Grant ye no pray'r—
To thy light footsteps
Let terror add wings—
'Tis Massaroni
Himself who now sings—
'Gentle Zitella,
Banish thy fear—
Love's ritornella
Tarry and hear!"

As we observed at the beginning, the scenery
(principally by Stanfield) is beautiful.

COVENT GARDEN.

BOILEDIEU's opera, *Les Deux Nuits*, was produced here on Tuesday evening, under the formidable title of *The Night before the Wedding, and the Wedding Night*. The most stupid opera, perhaps, that ever survived a first night in Paris has been rendered a little more lively by the English adapters, and condensed into two acts. Mr. Bishop has added one very sweet air (the first sung by Wood), and two or three other pieces which we could have dispensed with—particularly a ballad about a "Knight with a scarlet plume;" and of the original music, the most effective pieces at Paris failed much in London. On the singing and performances, we do not think it requisite to enter into particulars. Of Mr. Dean, who made his first appearance in the part of *Valentine Acton*, we should have great hopes, were it possible for him ever to acquire something like grace or even human nature in his bearing—at present he walks like a cassiowary. There are some fine notes in his voice, and he is evidently a practised musician,—a great rarity on our stage. We, however, despair of his becoming actor enough to be trusted with any part in an English opera. Time, to be sure, works wonders. Of the plot and dialogue, &c. of the piece we can say nothing agreeable, and therefore we will take Denis Brulgruddey's advice, and say nothing at all. The opera was given out for repetition by Mr. Wood amidst considerable uproar, and is not, we should imagine, destined to a very long life.

ADELPHI.

The Sisters, or the Brigands of Albano, by Mr. Buckstone, was produced on Monday. It is founded on the same story in the Keepsake from which the *Sister of Charity* was taken last summer at the English Opera. Mr. and Mrs. Yates were excellent in their respective parts; and Miss Daly played with great feeling and judgment. O. Smith made a capital brigand; and Buckstone, the ingenious author, was as droll as usual. The melodrama was altogether too long the first night, and went off flatly in consequence; it has since been curtailed, and is becoming a favourite. Yet, we would have nothing but what is *light* at this theatre—except the elephant.

At the Great Room, King's Theatre, there are to be three Italian operas before Christmas. The first representation is to take place on Saturday, 5th December.

VARIETIES.

Natural History.—The Siamese boys, of whom we have heard so much in the papers, are expected in England for exhibition in a

few days. They are eighteen years of age, in perfect health, with great activity of bodies, quickness of intellect, and of cheerful and happy dispositions.

Paris Academy of Sciences.—This Society, at its sitting on Monday last, proceeded to the election of a member to supply the place vacant by the death of M. Pelletan. The candidates were Messrs. Larrey, Roux, Breschet, Lisfranc, and Cloquet: to these, several members added the name of our distinguished countryman, Dr. Edwards. On the first ballot, M. Larrey obtained 19 votes; M. Roux 17; Dr. Edwards 10; M. Breschet 2; M. Cloquet 1; and M. Lisfranc 1. On the second, M. Larrey had 24; M. Roux 21; and Dr. Edwards 6. M. Larrey was consequently elected. The other proceedings were without interest. The election of a member to fill the place vacated by the death of the Count Daru, will take place on Monday next. There are eight candidates.

Natural History.—To give an idea of the number of articles collected by Messrs. Quoy and Gaimard, the naturalists who accompanied the expedition commanded by Captain Durville, it is enough to say, that the Museum of Natural History in Paris can with difficulty contain them; and that, in order to deposit them, it has been necessary to descend into the ground floor of the building, and almost into the cellars; and to divide several of the halls into compartments, to obtain additional room. The result of their investigations of fishes is especially remarkable. Knowing that M. Cuvier was preparing to publish a great work on that subject, they sought for varieties with the utmost care, and discovered a vast number, distinguished by their novelty, and by the splendour of their colours. In contemplating their drawings, it is impossible sufficiently to admire the surprising gorgeousness with which nature has decorated beings destined to live in the depths of the ocean.

We recently noticed Mr. Martin's election as honorary member of the Academy of Arts at Edinburgh; but omitted to state that Mr. W. Kidd was elected at the same time.

Canova.—A complete series of graphic copies from the works of this admirable sculptor is publishing at Venice; it is of a quarto size, appears in parts, each containing four plates, accompanied by textual illustrations, and will be comprised within the space of fifty of such parts. This attempt (and the manner in which it has been hitherto followed up in general merits our commendations) is the first which has been made in Italy to bring Canova's achievements, as a whole, under the public eye. Its value is greatly enhanced by the intrinsic merit of the illustrative matter, the task of providing which has been committed to his bosom friend, Missirini—a writer to whom we are already indebted for an excellent life of the Italian Phidias, and who on the present occasion has judiciously endeavoured to render his illustrations of importance to the artist and amateur, by interspersing them with æsthetic comments. The plates are designed and engraved by various hands, and are highly creditable to their talent; and we doubt not that, if carried on with the same spirit in which they have been begun, the "Opere di Antonio Canova disegnatæ ed incisæ, con illustrazioni di Melchiorre Missirini" will amply repay all the pains and expense that must attend their publication.

Dedications.—It was no uncommon circumstance for authors of the olden times to dedicate their works to the Deity, the Virgin Mary, or our Saviour. Those who were less

plausibly inclined, or whose physical necessities were more pressing than their spiritual wants, sold the birthright of their independence for a purse of gold. Charles the Fifth appears to have exceeded most modern patrons in liberality, as Petrus Appianus received three thousand gilders (£250) from him as the price of a dedication. Christiana of Sweden intimated her intention of bestowing a gold chain worth 1000 pistoles on Scudery in approbation of his *Alaric*, provided he struck out his panegyric on Count de la Gardie; but his honesty stood proof against the temptation, and the gold chain never shone across his bosom.

LITERARY NOVELTIES.

Mr. Robert Montgomery, who, at so early an age, has made so powerful a public impression in the highest range of sacred poetry, has in the press (to be published by Maunders) a Poem in Three Books, entitled "Satan."

The principal Memoirs in the fourth volume of the Annual Biography and Obituary (for 1830) will be, of Sir William Hoste—the Countess of Derby—Lieut.-Colonel Denham—Sir Humphry Davy—William Shield, Esq.—Sir Edward West—Earl of Harrington—Thomas Harrison (architect)—Sir Brent Spencer—Lord Colchester—Dr. George Pearson—Mr. Terry—Sir David Baird—William Stevenson, Esq.—Earl of Buchan—Mr. Thomas Bewick—Sir James Atholl Wood—Archibald Fletcher, Esq.—Dr. Wollaston—John Reeves, Esq.—Lord Harris—Mr. Baron Hullock—William Thomas Fitzgerald, Esq.—Earl of Huntingdon, &c. &c.

Notices of the British in 1828-9, by the Rev. R. Walsh, LL.D., will shortly appear.

A new edition of the Rev. H. F. Burder's Mental Discipline, with many additions, is in the press.

The following are reported to be the principal contents of the forthcoming No. of the Edinburgh Review—Lord King's Life of Locke—Mrs. Hemans's Poetry—French Commercial Policy—Lady Fanshawe's Memoirs—The Byzantine Historians—Utilitarian Theory, and "the Greatest Happiness Principle"—American Literature—Vegetable Physiology: Dutrochet, De Candolle, and Mrs. Marcet—Burckhardt's Arabia—Library of Useful Knowledge—M. Cousin's Course of Philosophy—Auldy's Ascent of Mont Blanc—Flaxman's Lectures on Sculpture—History and Present State of Chemical Science—New French Ministry, &c. &c.

The successful author of the Opening of the Sixth Seal will, it is said, reappear on the first day of the ensuing year in a poem of a novel nature, entitled 1829. A work by Sir H. Davy, entitled a Vision, written during his last illness, in the playful style of *Salmonia*, is left to his executors for publication. His Life, written by Dr. Paris, is also expected.

Mr. Warburton, M.P., is at present engaged on a Life of Dr. Wollaston.

One volume of Moore's Life of Byron is printed off. It runs to 500 pages quarto. The other is expected to be finished by the first of January.

The next No. of the Family Library (after the Court and Camp) will be the second volume of the Lives of British Painters, including West, Fuseli, Barry, Blake, Opie, and Morland; after that, the concluding volume of Milman's History of the Jews; and then the first volume of the Life of George III., which in its illustrations is said to be far beyond any thing as yet attempted, except Dr. Dibdin's Bibliographical Tour.

The Author of the Revolt of the Bees has nearly ready for publication a poem entitled the Reproof of Brutus. In the Press—Delineations of the North-Western Division of the County of Somerset; with a Descriptive Account of the Antediluvian Bone Caverns in the Mendip Hills, and a Geological Sketch of the District, by John Rutter.—The Nervous System, by Charles Bell, F.R.S., containing his Papers read before the Royal Society; with engravings, and an Appendix of Cases and Consultations illustrating the doctrines advanced in the text.—Ringsend Abbey, or the Stranger's Grave, with Other Tales, by an Englishwoman.—The first No. of a New Topographical Dictionary of Great Britain and Ireland, by Mr. J. Gorton, editor of the General Biographical Dictionary, &c.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

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